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January 31, 2025



This split-screen moment captures Sen. Roger Marshall, M.D. and President Trump's Ag Secretary Nominee Brooke

Rollins during their confirmation hearing exchange on bringing whole milk choice back to schools. Sen. Marshall always

comes prepared with THE MILK! Livestream confirmation hearing screen capture by Sherry Bunting

Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act reintroduced in style!

'Most nutritious drink known to humankind' takes center stage at Ag Secretary confirmation hearing

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

WASHINGTON, D.C. – It was the high point of the 4-hour confirmation hearing on Jan. 23rd for President Trump's Ag Secretary nominee Brooke Rollins, when Senator Roger Marshall, M.D. (R-Kan.) poured himself a glass of whole milk in front of the television cameras, and said:

Ms. Rollins, welcome. I want to know if you agree with me that whole milk is the most nutritious drink known to humankind and belongs in our school lunches."

He then promptly took a big swig of nature's nutrition powerhouse that American children have been banned from consuming at school meals since 2012.

Yes, there was a ripple of good-natured laughter throughout the room at the absurdity of it all – the absurdity that this nutrition powerhouse has actually been banned for 13 years on school grounds to even be bought with one's own money from midnight before the start of the school day to 30 minutes after the end of the school day, per the 12-years of King Vilsack that Secretary Perdue's interruption even failed to overturn.

The new Ag Secretary nominee Rollins responded with a hand motion to her mother two rows back among the family, friends, colleagues, ag teacher, fellow former FFA state officers and current Little League team she coaches in attendance for the confirmation hearing, as she replied with a hearty and all-too-knowing laugh:

"Senator, I don't know that you have met my mom – yet. But this is all we had in our refrigerator growing up – not anything else – just whole milk. She is absolutely never going to let us forget this – the fact that this is coming up! But yes, this hits home to me very quickly," said Rollins.

On the very same day, whole milk champion U.S. Representative Glenn 'GT' Thompson (R-Pa.) with prime co-sponsor and pediatrician Rep. Kim Schrier (D-Wash.), along with Senator Marshall and prime co-sponsoring Senators Peter Welch (D-Vt.), Dave McCormick (R-Pa.) and John Fetterman



Pennsylvania Congressman 'GT' Thompson has championed the effort since the very beginning.

(D-Pa.) led the re-introduction of the bipartisan, bicameral Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2025.

The bill in its fifth attempt will allow unflavored and flavored whole (3.25 to 3.5% fat) and reduced-fat (2%) milk to once again be offered in school cafeterias, which are currently only permitted to have fat-free and 1% milk available for growing children, much of which is shunned or thrown away.

"Federal policy, based on flawed, outdated science has kept whole milk out of school cafeterias for more than a decade," said Rep. Thompson in a Jan. 23rd press statement. "Milk provides 13 essential nutrients for growth and health, two key factors contributing to academic success. The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2025 provides schools the flexibility they need to offer a variety of options, while supporting students and America's hard-working dairy farmers."

"As a pediatrician, I know how important a balanced and nutritious diet is for children's health, well-being, and development," added Rep. Schrier. "A healthy diet early in life leads to proper physical growth and improved academic performance and can set the foundation for lifelong healthy eating habits. Milk contains essential nutrients... This bill simply gives schools the option of providing the types of milk most kids prefer to drink."

Sen. Marshall was blunt, saying, "(It) should never have been excluded from the National School Lunch Program. Now, 13 years after its removal, nearly 75% of children do not receive their recommended daily dairy intake. I believe in a healthier future for America, and by increasing kids' access to whole milk in school cafeterias, we will help prevent diet-related diseases down the road, as well as encourage nutrient-rich diets for years to come."

"Milk provides growing kids with key nutrients they need. Dairy is also an important part of Vermont's culture and local economy, which is why our bipartisan bill to expand access to whole milk in our schools is a win for Vermont's students and farmers," said

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PERIODICAL • DO NOT DELAY

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FINAL CALL
Dairy Summit can inspire you and bring ideas to life

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Continuing education credits for dairy producers, veterinarians and animal science professionals are available at the Pennsylvania Dairy Summit coming up on February 5-6 in State College, Pa.

This year's theme is "Designing Your Tomorrow Today," with several continuous learning opportunities happening throughout the event to allow attendees to start taking action and bring their ideas to life.

Hosted by the Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania and Center for Dairy Excellence, the two-day Dairy Summit will be held at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center, with over 16 dynamic speakers, sessions and discussion groups focused on real-time issues affecting dairy producers, along with several networking opportunities and continuous learning at the forefront.

Thanks to grants and support from the Center for Dairy Excellence, Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania and Summit sponsors, registration fees for dairy producers are set to be as affordable as possible. Individuals can still register for the event at www.padairysummit.org or by calling the Dairy Summit Business Office at 814-355-2467. Walk-ins will also be accepted.

"I always leave the Dairy Summit feeling very inspired and encouraged. The line-up of keynote and breakout sessions this year is excellent, but the networking at Summit is always equally as valuable. Sometimes you get tunnel vision working on your own farm, so it's great to be able to connect and network with other farmers," said Jared Kurtz, a dairy producer from Berks County, Pa. and this year's Summit chairman. "I always learn just as much from the conversations and energy that you'll find happening in the hallways and during breaks at Summit."

Below are more details about opportunities for networking, learning and inspiration.

- Networking receptions: During conference breaks, the Young Dairy Professionals Reception on Tuesday evening, a Networking and Exhibitor Reception, and more, there is ample time to connect and converse with attendees throughout the week.

- Continuous education credits: The Dairy Summit program is approved for continuous education credits through the American Registry of Animal Science Professionals, the National Farmers Assuring Responsible Management to page 9

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— Matt Nealy



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Whole milk

from page 1

Sen. Welch.

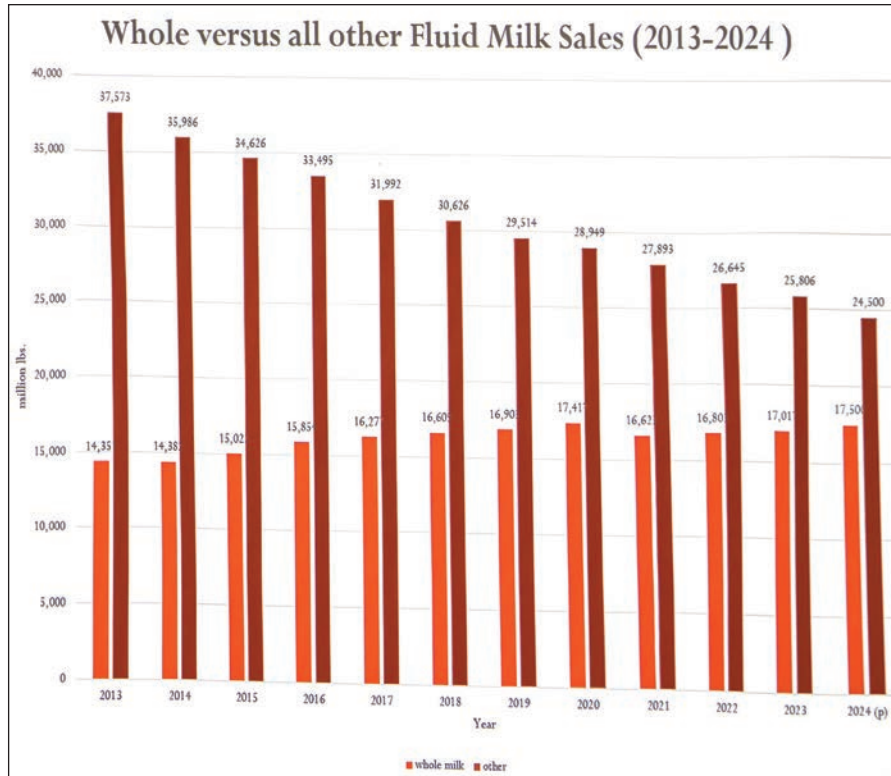
Sen. McCormick said the bill “puts milk back in schools that growing kids actually want to drink. Pennsylvania’s dairy farmers supply this country (with it)... allowing schools to serve (it) in the lunchroom is just commonsense.

“Kids need it,” said Sen. Fetterman. “Let’s give them the option to enjoy whole milk again in schools – it’s good for them, they’ll actually drink it, and it supports our farmers. This bill is a simple solution that benefits everyone.”

Both National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF) and International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA) rushed to the forefront singing the bill’s praises and promptly issuing press releases, something that in past attempts took a little time.

As longtime milk market guru Calvin Covington noted at the R&J Dairy Consulting seminar in eastern Lancaster County on Jan. 28th, kudos go to the grassroots efforts. He showed the increase in whole milk sales nationally, while other fluid milk categories have declined. This has somewhat stabilized the steep losses the entire fluid milk category has suffered most steeply in the past 14 years.

“My hat’s off to all of you and what you have done here in Pennsylvania, throughout the state and country, in promoting whole milk. I just wish other dairy farmers would be grassroots like you are and get involved,” said Covington. “Your work has paid off. Look



Calvin Covington showed this chart at a meeting Jan. 28 in eastern Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and he credited the grassroots effort to promote whole milk. “Whole milk is coming up, and everything else is going down,” he said, noting the jump in 2020 during the pandemic, followed by the drop in 2021. “When they were home, they drank good-tasting milk, but unfortunately when the schools opened back up, they had to go back to the other stuff.”

at this graph. In 2013, whole milk sales were a little over 14 billion pounds. Last year (2024 with 11 months of data) I’m estimating 17.5 billion pounds. Whole milk is coming up, and

everything else is going down.”

Covington dug into the graph further to show that in 2019, the amount of whole milk sold was 16.9 billion pounds. “But look what

happened in 2020, it jumped up to 17.4 and then back down to 16.62 in 2021. That was the pandemic. People were home. Schools were closed,” he said.

“When they were home, they drank good-tasting milk, but unfortunately when the schools opened back up, they had to go back to the other stuff. But my hat’s off to what you’ve done here. We’re selling more whole milk, and one thing people forget is that 100 pounds of Class I milk sales with higher fat content -- last year it averaged 2.4 in this market compared to what it was 15 years ago when it averaged less than 2% -- the more fat sold in Class I milk, the more income for you as dairy farmers. Class I butterfat is worth more than butterfat in the other markets, so my hat’s off to what you’re doing.”

Author’s Note: Yes, Covington is speaking of the good work, the hard work, of 97 Milk volunteers who formed the non-profit in 2019 after dairy farmer Nelson Troutman’s painted bales began appearing. This good work is sustained by a handful of volunteers and donations. Just think what could be accomplished with more involvement. One of those volunteers is Jackie Behr of R&J Dairy Consulting, who puts her marketing skills to work for 97 Milk. She reminded farmers that donations are needed to keep the milk education movement going.

An Amish Wedding Feast fundraiser is scheduled for Feb. 8 at Solanco Fairgrounds, with sponsorships still available. The next 97 Milk meeting open to all dairy farmers is March 25 at Durlach-Mt. Airy Fire Hall near Ephrata, Pa. Check out 97milk.com to learn more about the milk education movement, and hit the donate tab to find out how you can help.



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Bill Nichol's 'trainees' came to visit; Bill is 94

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — Ken Raney and Mike Weimer recently organized a visit inviting all past employees who worked with William C. Nichol at some point during his 37 years as executive secretary of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association.

The group met at Bill and Lilly's home in State College on Sunday, January 19; four days after he turned 94. Their daughter Nancy and her husband Craig Myers helped Lilly host the event. In attendance were Mike and Cindy Weimer, Ken and Beth Raney, John and Susan Howard, Doug and Jill Hershey and Diane Moshier. Joining via Zoom were Mike Young, Robert Morris and Jeff Harding. Several others had planned to be a part of the gathering, but a snowstorm forced cancellations.

"Everyone truly enjoyed visiting Bill and Lilly and reminiscing, sharing stories about work with Pennsylvania Holsteins and our boss, Bill Nichol," said Mike Weimer. One story Lilly shared involved a buying team from Russia. They stayed overnight with the Nichols one evening and loved playing pool so much that the next morning at breakfast they asked Bill: "Can we leave one bull off the plane so we can take a pool table back with us?"

There were enough great stories to write a book, but most enjoyable was the afternoon shared with one another.

As many know, after you were trained by Bill Nichol you were prepared for success in whatever you tackled. Many of these individuals continued working in this great dairy industry and their paths crossed often.

Following is a list of Bill's understudies over the years: Bill's time at the helm of PHA started in 1959 and concluded in 1996.

Albert Chavez, 1961 – 1962	Mike Weimer, 1980 – 1983
Tom Kelly, 1962 – 1965	Doug Hershey, 1980 – 1984
Nelvin Empet, 1965 – 1967	Diane Moshier, 1980 – 1984
Dave Slusser, 1967 – 1969	Steve Wilson, 1984 – 1985
Jay Howes, 1972 – 1975	Ken Raney, 1984 – 2020
Mike Young, 1974 – 1975	Jeff Harding, 1985 – 1992
Robert Morris, 1975 – 1980	Bill Allen, 1992 – 2000
John Howard, 1975 – 1981	Dave Lentz, 2000 – present

It should also be noted here that several other men worked with Bill Nichol as fieldmen for the National Holstein Association in Pa. between 1970 and 1973. They were:

Carl Brown
Loren Engelbrecht



Clockwise, from left, John Howard, Diane Moshier, Ken Raney, Mike Weimer and Doug Hershey. All are former staff members of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association who gathered recently to pay tribute to Bill Nichol. Photos provided

Gayle Carson

In his book "From Home to Happy Valley" which he had published in 2009, Bill wrote: "I was one of nine children born to Ralph Smith and Mildred Wells Nichol at home on January 15, 1931, at Home, Pennsylvania." In the next sentence, he amusingly added: "My secret for one of the early TV shows, "I've got a Secret" would have been just that. I was

born at home in Home, Pennsylvania.

On the very last page of that book he shared these words: "I hope my accomplishments may inspire others to take advantage of opportunities, to accept challenges, to make the best better and to improve the quality of life for others. I have had a world of experiences, literally just that. My travels with the Air Force and travels with Holstein and family friends have taken me to all 50 states and four different continents. I have had personal contacts with individuals representing 50 different countries. No matter what your interest or where your journey takes you, make the most of any situation.

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Bill Nichol is pictured with his wife, Lilly, to whom he has been married for 69 years.



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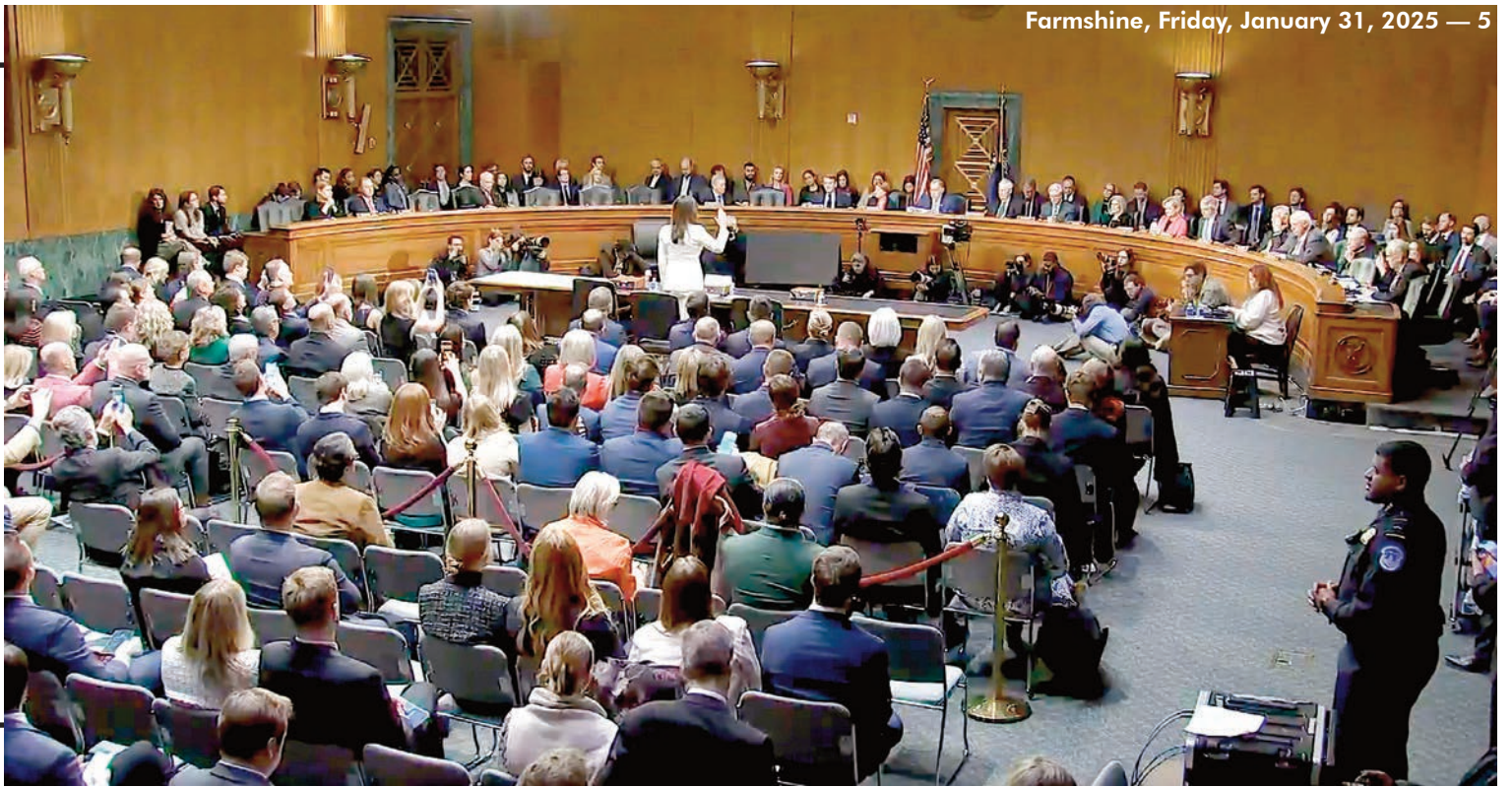
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Brooke Rollins stands to be sworn in for testimony during her confirmation hearing before the U.S. Senate Ag Committee. She was joined by a room full of family, friends, colleagues, her high school Ag teacher, fellow 1990-91 state FFA officers, the little league softball team she coaches, and a pastor from Georgia who prayed with her and her family that morning.

Senate Ag Committee website livestream screen capture by Sherry Bunting



‘Farmers will be at that table’

Rollins pledges ‘fast and furious’ first 100 days if confirmed as next Secretary of Agriculture

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The growing U.S. Agriculture trade deficit was a key topic last Thurs., Jan. 23, when President Trump’s nominee for Secretary of Agriculture, Brooke Rollins, gave testimony and answered four hours of questions before the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.

A Senate vote on her confirmation has not yet been scheduled.

Along with the trade deficit, Senators were keen to talk about Trump’s trade policies and tariffs, while also asking questions that covered everything from immigration and the ag workforce, to biofuels, the farm bill, SNAP, WIC, and other feeding programs, as well as revitalization of rural communities and preparing the next generation.

Rollins even had an important exchange with Senator Roger Marshall, a medical doctor from Kansas, about bringing the choice of whole milk back to schools. (See related story on page 1.)

Both Texas Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz introduced

Rollins, calling her nomination “a no-brainer.”

She grew up in the small agricultural town of Glen Rose, Texas, where she was a barrel racer, a state FFA officer, helped make hay on the ranch, and raised and showed cattle in 4-H. She also spent some summers on the farm of extended family in Minnesota.

An admitted “policy wonk,” she earned her ag leadership and development degree at Texas A&M and her law degree, with honors, at the University of Texas School of Law.

“Everyone who knows Brooke, loves Brooke, and I know

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See what's new for dairy at New York Farm Show

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — The New York Farm Show, the Northeast's largest agricultural technology event, returns February 20-22 to the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse. Open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., the show features new products, expert-led seminars and cutting-edge solutions for farmers and agricultural professionals.

Dairy producers will want to explore new bedding mats, rotary milking systems and hoof care solutions to enhance cow comfort and herd health. High-capacity loaders, flail mowers and heavy-duty spreaders engineered to tackle demanding tasks will also be on display.

This year's show will debut a range of products designed to improve farm productivity and efficiency. Expect to see advanced harvest tracking tools and multipurpose compact tractors that make fieldwork more efficient.

With more than 400 exhibitors, the event offers products covering dairy, beef, forestry, crop management and heavy machinery. Admission is \$5 for adults, and children under 18 attend free.

For more information, please www.NewYorkFarmShow.com. The show is proudly hosted and produced by *American Agriculturist*, *Farm Progress* and Northeast Equipment Dealers Association.

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Auction Guide

FEB. 1, 9 a.m. Fisher/Stoltzfus Farm Auction, Bird In Hand, Pa. Sale managed by Tim Weaver Auction Service.

FEB. 5, 10:30 a.m. Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.

FEB. 7, 8 a.m. Annual Catalog Draft Horse Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.

FEB. 7, 11:30 a.m. Hadlock Dairy Complete Reg. & Grade Dispersal, Hosking Sales, New Berlin, N.Y. Sale managed by Hosking Sales.

FEB. 8, 7 p.m. Pa. Holstein Convention Sale, Gettysburg, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.

FEB. 13, 10 a.m. Heavenly Creek Farm Reg. Jersey Herd Dispersal, Brubaker's Quality Dairy Sales, Shippensburg, Pa. Sale managed by Brubaker's Quality Dairy Sales.

FEB. 14, 10 a.m. Special Dairy Sale, Fisher's Quality Dairy Sales, Ronks, Pa. Sale managed by Fisher's Quality Dairy Sales.

FEB. 21, 8:30 a.m. King Farm Auction, Leola, Pa. Sale managed by Double E Auction Service.

MARCH 6, 10 a.m. Know What You Buy Heifer Sale, Middletown, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.

MARCH 8, 11 a.m. Hard Core Selection Sale VIII, Fraley's Dairy Complex, Muncy, Pa. Sale managed by Fraley Auction Company.

MARCH 18, 11 a.m. Spring Opportunity at Pine-Tree II, Brown Swiss & Jersey Edition, Wooster, Ohio. Sale managed by Modern Associates.

MARCH 22, Spring Premier All-Breed Dairy Sale, Hosking Sales, New Berlin, N.Y. Sale managed by Hosking Sales.

MARCH 22, 11 a.m. DVU Green & Gold Sale, Doylestown, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.

Ohio Farm Bureau group extends breakfast invitation

ASHLAND, Ohio — Ashland County Farm Bureau invites members and prospective members to their Member Appreciation Breakfast on February 22 from 8 to 10 a.m. at the Ashland High School Cafeteria. This year, the popular pancake flipper (Mark with Katie's Pancakes) returns to offer a breakfast that you have to catch yourself! Breakfast will also include sausage and beverages.

In addition to breakfast, the event will offer a presentation at 9 a.m. by Joe Webken from Trueland Implement about ag application technology updates.

The breakfast is free to Farm Bureau members and their dependents. Non members can attend at \$20 per person. Become a member of the Ashland County Farm Bureau at the breakfast and there is no charge for your meal. Bring a new member or join as a new member at the breakfast and receive a free T-shirt! Renew at the breakfast and receive \$5 in cash back. There is no RSVP required to attend this event.



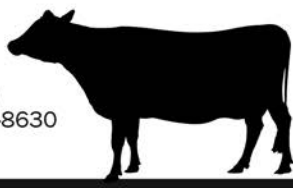
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Dairyman's Datebook

FEBRUARY 3, 9 a.m. King's AgriSeeds meeting, Woodman Life, 3045 John Wayland Highway, Dayton, Va.

FEBRUARY 4, 9 a.m. King's AgriSeeds meeting, Waidsboro Ruritan Building, 370 Ruritan Road, Rocky Mount, Va.

FEBRUARY 5-6, Pennsylvania Dairy Summit, Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center, 215 Innovation Boulevard, State College.

FEBRUARY 6, 6:30 p.m. Taste of Maryland Agriculture gala at Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland at Arundel Mills in Hanover, Md.

FEBRUARY 7, 1 p.m. Pennsylvania Holstein Association Annual Meeting at the Wyndham Gettysburg Hotel & Conference Center, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, Pa. Lunch will be available prior to the meeting from 11:30 to 12:30. Lunch tickets must be purchased through PHA Convention Registration.

FEBRUARY 8, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Amish Wedding Style Dinner (eat or take out); a fundraiser for 97MILK, Solanco Fairgrounds, 172 South Lime Street, Quarryville, Pa.

FEBRUARY 11, 9:30 a.m. King's AgriSeeds meeting, Foxboro Lodge, 93 Church Road, Selinsgrove, Pa.

FEBRUARY 11, 12, 8 a.m. registration, Dairy Wellbeing Workshop, presented by Professional Dairy Producers® (PDP), at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College in Green Bay. Same program each day; take your pick which day to go.

FEBRUARY 12, 9 a.m. Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland (PFGC) annual conference, West Overton Village & Museum, 109 West Overton Road, Scottsdale, Pa.

FEBRUARY 13, 9:30 a.m. King's AgriSeeds meeting, Premier Events at Saucon Valley, 1 Kenny Headman Lane, Bethlehem, Pa.

FEBRUARY 17, noon, Dairy Old Timers Luncheon, O'Brien's Irish Pub, 701 West Lumsden Road, Brandon, Fla.

FEBRUARY 20, 9 a.m. Wenger Feeds / Hooper Feeds "Milk Metrics" meeting "Learning Today for a Better Tomorrow" at Shady Maple Smorgasbord, 1324 Main Street, East Earl, Pa.

FEBRUARY 20, 10 a.m. No-Bull mid-winter informational meeting, including lunch, at The Rail Center Building, 224 Young Road, Lewisburg, Pa.

FEBRUARY 20-22, New York Farm Show, at the N.Y. State Fairgrounds, Syracuse.

FEBRUARY 22, 6:30 p.m. Maryland Dairy Shrine Dinner, Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship.

FEBRUARY 22, 8-10 a.m. Ashland County Ohio Farm Bureau member appreciation breakfast, Ashland High School Cafeteria, 1440 King Road, Ashland.

FEBRUARY 25, 9:30 a.m. King's AgriSeeds meeting, Jefferson Ruritan Center, 4603B Lander Road, Jefferson, Md.

MARCH 4, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Animal care workshop at the Cumberland County Extension Office, 310 Allen Road, Carlisle, Pa. Optional dairy farm tour: Stover Farms.

MARCH 6, 9 a.m. Agricultural Veterinary Associates client appreciation luncheon at Shady Maple Baquet & Event Center, 129 Toddy Drive, East Earl, Pa.

MARCH 7-8, Ohio Holstein Association convention and annual meeting, Best Western Hotel, 243 East Liberty Street, Wooster.

MARCH 11, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Animal care workshop at the Lancaster Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, Pa. Optional dairy farm tour: Franklin View Farms LLC.

MARCH 11-12, PDP's Cornerstone Dairy Academy, Alliant Energy Center Way, Madison, Wis.

MARCH 13, 8:30 a.m. Western Pennsylvania Grazing Conference, Trinity Point Church of God, 180 West Trinity Drive, Clarion.

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Immigration concerns and bird flu updates top the agenda

HARRISBURG, Pa. — With immigration concerns mounting this week for farms and businesses that have foreign labor and the preliminary finding of H5, 2.3.4.4 in a commercial poultry flock in Lehigh County, Pennsylvania triggering new biosecurity mandates for neighboring dairies, the Pennsylvania Dairy Summit will offer guidance and resources from expert speakers who have updates to share about these real-time issues in the news.

It is important to note that the HPAI H5N1 strain on the Lehigh County poultry farm is the wild migratory bird strain, not the dairy-adapted strain detected in dairy cows in 16 states in 2024-25. With mandatory tankerload testing of all Pennsylvania milk since Dec. 6, the current status of the state's dairies remains at zero H5N1 detections since the national outbreak began in Texas last March.

Hosted by the Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania and Center for Dairy Excellence, the two-day Dairy Summit will be held next week on February 5 and 6 at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center. Registration is still open for the event, and walk-ins will be accepted.

"I can't imagine why a dairy operation wouldn't send at least one person to take advantage of next week's Dairy Summit program, especially when you consider you'll become more prepared on how to understand workforce regulations and be able to leave the Summit with your biosecurity plan in hand to meet the new mandates required to continue operating within an HPAI outbreak area," said Jared Kurtz, a dairy producer from Berks County, Pa. and the 2025 Dairy Summit chairman. "If you're concerned and



"I can't imagine why a dairy operation wouldn't send at least one person to take advantage of next week's Dairy Summit program, especially when you consider you'll become more prepared on how to understand workforce regulations and be able to leave the Summit with your biosecurity plan in hand to meet the new mandates required to continue operating within an HPAI outbreak area."

— Jared Kurtz

have questions about what you're seeing in the news, our speakers have firsthand insights to share, boots-on-the-ground guidance, and hands-on help."

With news about immigration coming to certain workplaces, next week's Dairy Summit will feature a timely breakout panel discussion focused on employment law with Wayne Vanderhoof, Brook Duer, Esq., and Ricky Palladino, Esq. Palladino is a seasoned immigration attorney with experience from inside of ICE as well as years of experience advocating for foreign workers and their employers. He is seeing first-hand what is and is not happening in Pennsylvania and across the country, and plans to detail this rapidly evolving issue and advise attendees on how to protect their employees and prepare and respond to any potential interactions with law enforcement — sharing what he is actually seeing on the ground over the past week.

Biosecurity is another real-time issue facing dairy and poultry producers across the Commonwealth. On January 27, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture reported a preliminary finding of H5, 2.3.4.4 in a com-

mercial poultry flock in Lehigh County, Lynn Township, Pennsylvania. A 10-Kilometer (about 6 miles) Control Area has been placed around the premises, which includes a 3 Kilometer Infected Zone and a 7 Kilometer Buffer Zone.

Per the Department's quarantine order, and to exercise precaution to dairy farms and poultry facilities in that area, dairy farms in the 3 Kilometer Infected Zone around an infected poultry or dairy premise are required to conduct surveillance (bulk tank or in-line milk samples representing the entire milking herd).

While no cases have appeared in dairy yet, and this is not the strain that has infected dairy cattle in other states, the risk of HPAI is high and biosecurity is essential.

Next week, the Dairy Summit will have a HPAI and Biosecurity Resource Center available in the live demonstration area of the event on both February 5 and 6 to help dairy producers take the steps they need to prepare

for this growing biosecurity concern and any future mandates for dairies. Attendees can visit the demo area to work with staff to create a biosecurity plan for their individual dairy, and learn how to get a USDA issued federal premises identification number that is registered with the Department. Both steps will help dairy producers stay proactive and protect their operations against any future HPAI findings or mandates.

In addition to these two timely sessions, the Dairy Summit program includes over 16 dynamic speakers and sessions for dairy producers from all size operations — from herd management to forages, employee management, and future opportunities. Continuing education credits are available for many of the sessions.

Visit www.padairysummit.org to register and/or view the full program. Walk-ins will be accepted at the event, and producer discounts are available. Contact the Pennsylvania Dairy Summit Business Office with questions. Call 814-355-2467 or email info@padairysummit.org.

USDA offering wide-spread drought aid

WASHINGTON, D.C. — USDA has designated counties in Maryland as primary natural disaster areas due to drought and excessive heat last summer. Additional contiguous counties in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia have also been named.

This Secretarial natural disaster designation allows USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters through emergency loans.

Primary counties eligible in Maryland are: Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Charles,

Dorchester, Harford, Prince George's, St. Mary's.

Contiguous counties also eligible:

Delaware: Sussex.

Maryland: Caroline, Carroll, Cecil, Howard, Kent, Montgomery, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, Baltimore.

Pennsylvania: Lancaster, York.

Virginia: Fairfax, King George, Prince William, Stafford, Westmoreland, Alexandria.

To file a Notice of Loss or to ask questions about available programs, contact your local USDA Service Center.





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The good, bad and unknown approved by producer referendum

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

SAVANNAH, Ga. -- As part of his annual outlook for milk prices in the Southeast, well-respected retired milk co-op executive Calvin Covington broke down the final USDA Federal Milk Marketing Order formula changes into three categories: The positive, the negative, and the unknown.

He spoke to over 300 attendees from 10 states at the 2025 Georgia Dairy Conference in Savannah Monday (Jan. 20), just a few days after USDA's announcement that producers in each of the 11 FMMOs approved the final rule.

It will be implemented June 1, 2025, except for the increased milk composition factors, which will be delayed six months due to impacts on "risk management."

Covington shared collective analysis based on USDA's backward-looking data (2019-23), showing that all six pricing changes, combined, would have benefited producers by 26 cents per hundredweight across all FMMOs, nationwide, during those years.

"But, like the disclaimer on a financial prospectus, 'past performance is not an indicator of future results.' It is all relative," he said. "The three Orders of the Southeast are by far the biggest beneficiaries, but going forward, there are a lot of things we just don't know."

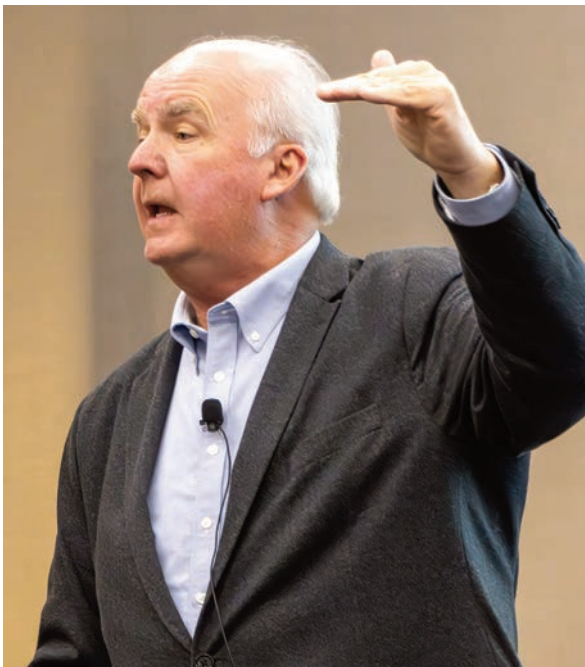
Orders with estimated negative net impact at test are: Pacific Northwest (124) -7 cents; Arizona (131) -11 cents; Upper Midwest (30) -13 cents; and California (51) -27 cents.

Orders with estimated positive impacts at test are: Appalachian (5) +\$1.90; Southeast (7) +\$1.80; Florida (6) +\$1.43; Central (32) +52 cents; Mideast (33) +51 cents; Northeast (1) +36 cents; and Southwest (126) +7 cents.

The good

"The Southeast will see the majority of benefit, with the updated Class I differentials," Covington reported, illustrating how they vary by location for an average increase of \$1.24 per cwt across the country – but only for Class I milk. The three Orders of the Southeast will see more of this benefit because they have the largest Class I differential increases and their blend prices are predominantly Class I.

A University of Wisconsin-Madison study had previously looked at where the plants are and where the milk is, in order



Calvin Covington shared this analysis of how the recently approved FMMO milk pricing changes could collectively impact each of the 11 Orders, but warned that it is based on past performance, which may not be an indicator of future results. There are many unknowns. Photo by Sherry Bunting

to think about moving milk from where it more is produced to where it is needed.

The highest differential increase is along the route 85 corridor, beginning near Atlanta, up into West Virginia, where there are plants but no milk. Interestingly, his chart showed that the smallest increases for the region are in Florida locations as well as Valdosta, Georgia, where the new Walmart milk plant is being built.

The milk composition factor updates are straightforward, he said, yielding about a 35 cents per cwt benefit to the Class I milk price in all FMMOs, and will raise the standardized skim value of the other classes in the three southeastern Orders that are still priced as fat/skim instead of by multiple component pricing.

The bad

The make allowance increases will lower the price for butterfat and other solids value, he said, "but we don't know what will happen with the protein price because of the elimination of the barrel cheese prices from the formula."

The unknown

Historically, the 500-pound barrel cheese price was lower than 40-pound block price.

"This year, however, barrels have been higher, so we don't know," said Covington.

Also in the unknown category is the return to the 'higher-of' as USDA's method for setting the base Class I skim price.

"In the past five years, the average-of method cost dairy farmers millions of dollars, but we don't know going forward if the skim factors (Class III vs. Class IV) will get back to being closer together, which would lower prices. If the spread stays wide, this change to the higher-of will increase prices," he explained.

When asked if the Covid pandemic created the loss in Class I value under the average-of vs. higher-of, Covington said the Covid period – while most obvious – only accounts for one year out of five years in which the spreads between Class III and Class IV and between block and barrel cheese were detrimental.

"The thing going forward is, we just don't know," he said.

The unvetted

The sixth change is not listed separately in the Jan. 16th USDA notice to trade, and it was not part of any hearing proposal. Covington said he views the extended shelf life (ESL) adjuster as "a new class of milk."

"The ESL adjuster is only on Class I. You'll have a Class I mover skim price that will be calculated for conventional milk based on the higher-of III or IV," he said. "Then you need a big spreadsheet to show what's going to happen next. They'll look 36 months previous to 12 months previous at the difference between the higher-of and the average-of, and that will be the adjuster to use for ESL milk that month."

He estimates the ESL adjuster would have averaged -30

turn to page 9

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CFP: 196 | SCS: 2.72

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Dairy Summit final call from page 2

ment (FARM) Program, and the Pennsylvania Department of Veterinary Science. Dairy producers, veterinarians and animal science professionals can all benefit from four breakout session tracks, including Herd and Health; Feed, Forages and Energy; People and Potential; and Outcomes and Opportunities.

- Discussion Groups: Attendees can exchange ideas with other dairy producers during these informal discussion groups happening throughout the event.

- Navigating Proactive Culling Decisions facilitated by Dr. Joe Bender. How do you decide when it is time for a cow to move into their second career? When is a cow no longer a productive member of your herd?

- Getting to the 8 Pound Club facilitated by Dr. Bill Braungard. Is it possible to achieve 8 pounds of butterfat and protein per cow per day? There are farms achieving 7 pounds. What's keeping them from getting to 8?

- Evaluating Group/Social Calf Care Strategies facilitated by Dr. Melissa Cantor. Is group housing actually better for the

calf than keeping them in individual pens? What has been working well on farms and what hasn't?

- Dairy Forum on Tuesday evening: The Dairy Summit will begin with the "Export Opportunities and Workforce Trends" Dairy Forum on Tuesday, February 4 at 7 p.m. The event is free for those registered for at least one day of the Summit or are part of the Pennsylvania Milk Dealers Meeting. Panelists will discuss dairy export trends, opportunities for U.S. dairy products in the global market, and workforce trends that could affect both dairy processors and producers.

- Live demos: New this year, Summit attendees can visit the demo room throughout the event to see technology and equipment in action and get free biosecurity resources. The room will feature the following demonstrations:

- HPAI and Biosecurity Resources: Get Help with Your Plan
- AI Technology on the Dairy: How Effective Is It?

- Climate-Smart Equipment: See How We Track the Impact Visit www.padairysummit.org to register and view the full program. Producer discounts will automatically be applied during the registration process. Contact the Pennsylvania Dairy Summit Business Office with questions. Call 814-355-2467 or email info@padairysummit.org.

No-Bull extends invitation

LEWISBURG, Pa. — No-Bull Sires will hold an engaging and informative mid-winter meeting on Thursday, February 20, at the Rail Center Building in Lewisburg with Ben Masemore, sire analyst, as the main speaker.

Masemore is one of the owners of the growing A.I. company founded by Rusty Herr and Ethan Wentworth, the other owners of No-Bull Sires. They will share how and why the company got started as well as talk about the breeding philosophy and the individual bulls.

The meeting will be hosted by the local No-Bull distributor, Richard Mellinger and by William Ile of aAa, who will be speaking about the "how and why" of aAa analyses. The benefits of breeding your cows to the correct mating pays dividends for a long time.

There will be a time for questions and answers for both speakers - so be prepared to come and learn.

Donuts and coffee will be served at 9:45 a.m.; the meeting will start at 10 and will be over by 2 p.m. A pizza lunch will be provided and milk and ice cream generously provided by Old Mill Creamery, LLC.

The Rail Center Building is located at 224 Young Road, Lewisburg. All farmers from far and wide are welcome to come to this meeting. The value of what you can learn will far surpass the door prizes or discounts that will be offered.

The good, bad from page 8

cents in 2024, but for some months it would have been a plus.

"My initial analysis is that it will not make a whole lot of difference in the short term, but we just don't know going forward if some will try to manipulate this," he said. "My concern is that it was not proposed at the hearing at all, and there's no definition for extended shelf life. I know being in this business all these years, if there is a way to work around it for a benefit, they will find a way to do it."

When asked about the competitive issues between conventional and ESL fluid milk and between out-of-area packaged ESL milk competing with in-area fresh milk, Covington observed potential competitive issues between conventional and ESL milk in the same area.

"You'll have two different costs at the same location. What has always been the beauty of the Federal Order system is having the same raw product costs at the same location," he said, adding that new ESL plants are being built and others are expanding.

"As ESL grows... there could be some months with a price advantage," Covington suggested.

"The thing is, we just don't know."



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Professional Dairy Producers Business Conference slated

JUNEAU, Wis. — Today's dairy industry demands grit, determination and an unwavering commitment to excellence. The 2025 Business Conference presented by the Professional Dairy Producers® (PDP) will deliver two days of world-class programming, leading researchers, experts, and dairy suppliers and networking opportunities for dairy producers to “dial it in” for success.

The conference will be held March 12-13, at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison, Wis., featuring 50 sessions sharing their insights and expertise in a variety of learning sessions ranging from cutting-edge technology to sustainability and management practices to leadership strategies. Sessions feature several formats for different learning styles including keynote, break-out, hands-on and learning lounge presentations, and sessions will be translated simultaneously for attendees who prefer to learn in Spanish. There will also be two sessions for 15 to 18-year-olds to build leadership and communications skills.

“There is nothing more valuable to busy dairy professionals than their time. The PDP Business Conference provides a wealth of education, networking and leadership development opportunities in just two days – there’s just no better place

to invest your time for those who want to get serious about their business and personal success,” said Shelly Mayer of Slinger, Wis., dairy producer and PDP executive director.

The Business Conference will feature expanded opportunities for networking and interaction with the industry’s premier dairy suppliers in the Hall of Ideas Equipment and Trade Show. New technologies, insights and innovations touching every aspect of the dairy industry will be on display throughout the conference, and the Hall of Ideas will come alive with an “Evening on the Square” on Wednesday evening. Reminiscent of Madison’s Capital Square, there will be live entertainment, a “taste of Wisconsin,” and exceptional food and beverages.

Located inside the Hall of Ideas, the Preview Stage provides an opportunity to hear about the latest research currently spearheaded by university researchers and graduate students from the University of Wisconsin system and Michigan State University.

The Nexus® stage will return to showcase companies whose novel ideas, products and services offer innovative solutions to producers and agri-business professionals. Representatives from each company will give a 15-minute

presentation followed by a question-and-answer segment with dairy producers.

Visit the 2025 Business Conference website for the conference flier, and information on exhibiting at the event. Details on lodging are also available, with discounted rates at several Madison area hotels if booked by February deadlines.

Professional Dairy Producers (PDP) is the nation's largest dairy producer-led organization of its kind, focusing on producer professionalism, stakeholder engagement and unified outreach to share ideas, solutions, resources and experiences that help dairy producers succeed.

Dairy cattle care is focus of one-of-a-kind workshop in February

JUNEAU, Wis. — Team members involved in the daily care of dairy cattle have an opportunity for one-of-a-kind training translated simultaneously into Spanish. The PDP Dairy Wellbeing Workshop, presented by Professional Dairy Producers® (PDP), blends classroom training with a focus on animal care and the people caring for them. Each day’s program will be kicked off by a beef-processing-plant tour for a firsthand look at how animal care choices impact cull-cow quality – and how the animal’s wellbeing is foremost all the way through to the end of their dairy career.

Two repeating one-day workshops will be held on Tue., Feb. 11, and Wed., Feb. 12, at the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College in Green Bay, Wis. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and the program will conclude at 3:45 p.m. each day.

During the tour of the American Foods Group facility, participants will trace the cull cow’s experience backwards from the cooler to the harvest floor. Beef buyers, market experts and USDA meat inspectors will share insights on carcass conditions, body condition and condemned cows, as well as how care at the farm impacts beef quality.

“This program does an incredible job showcasing the importance of dairy cattle care and well-being for every stage of their life,” said Brady Weiland, Columbus Wis., dairy producer and PDP board treasurer. “In addition to the tour, the classroom sessions are always relevant to key practices for taking care of animals and team members. I don’t know of any other educational program that’s quite as impactful as this one.”

Monica Kramer McConkey, MA, LPC, will present “Watch for that blind spot: understanding compassion fatigue,” to share practical tips for managing stress and prioritizing self-care in high-demand fields. Her presentation will outline the ramifications of compassion fatigue and how it can affect one’s physical and mental health.

Dr. Jan Shearer, DVM, will present “Euthanizing cattle – what you need to know,” which will guide attendees through the key circumstances that warrant euthanasia to prevent animal suffering, and provide clear, practical guidance on how to carry it out responsibly.

To learn more and register for the program, visit www.pdpw.org or contact PDP at 800-947-7379. The PDP Dairy Wellbeing Workshop is accredited for up to 5.25 Dairy AdvanCE and 5 ARPAS continuing education credits. FARM has also approved Dr. Shearer’s “Euthanizing cattle” session.

Follow along digitally in advance of and during the event by following PDP on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and X.

Client appreciation luncheon scheduled

BRICKERVILLE, Pa. — All clients of Agricultural Veterinary Associates LLC are invited to a customer appreciation luncheon at Shady Maple Smorgasbord on Thursday, March 6th. The program will start at 9 a.m. with breakfast pastries and conclude at 2 p.m. with door prizes, including a Bonnie Mohr painting. Three presentations, as follows, will complete the program.

- Jimena Laporta, an associate professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, will speak about managing heat stress in dry cows and pre-weaned calves.

- Jayne Sebright, executive director of the Center for Dairy Excellence, will inform attendees about HPAI and biosecurity planning.

- Stephen Foulke, DVM, will speak about respiratory diseases in calves ... what’s the true cost and what’s new in diagnostics.

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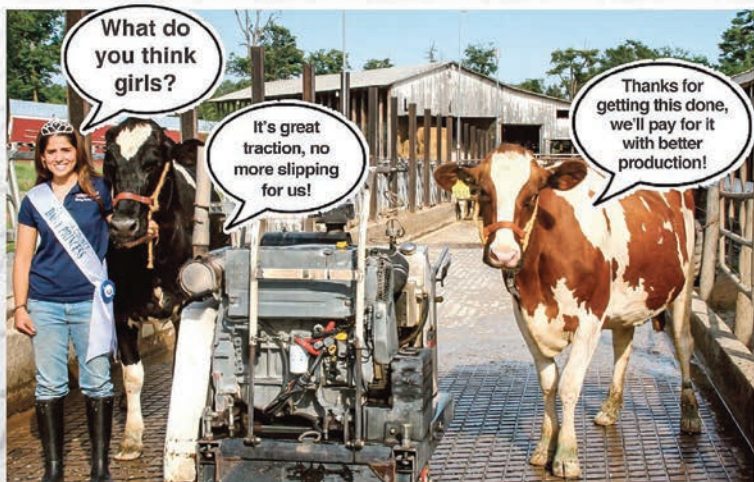


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Rollins from page 5

you will too as you get to know her,” said Sen. Cornyn.

Sen. Cruz highlighted her proven leadership, “profound appreciation for the challenges and rewards of life in agriculture,” reputation as an “independent policy thinker” and as a person who can “bring people together to accomplish major policy objectives.”

In her opening testimony, Rollins acknowledged that farmers and ranchers are currently facing “extraordinary challenges.”

She credited her FFA years for putting her on a course for where she is today and said it would be her great honor to “serve the men and women, who daily without pause or complaint provide our great nation and the world with the best food, fiber and fuel. It is clear farmers and ranchers are the cornerstone of our communities, and I will do everything in my ability to make sure (they) thrive.”

When asked to describe her first 100-days, she used the words “fast and furious,” especially in delivering into the hands of farmers and ranchers the disaster and economic relief recently passed by Congress.

On biofuels, she noted the President included year-round E15 fuels in his energy emergency proclamation.

Pressed for hope on the current \$45 billion U.S. Ag trade deficit, Rollins said a key priority will be to expand access to export markets.

“We are vision-boarding to hit the ground running to bring that trade deficit down. It is up 42% in the last year,” she said. “Agriculture is in a tough spot right now in moving our products out. The USMCA is up for renegotiation and other trade agreements.”

Rollins stressed that she will be working with Congress to be sure the White House and partners across agencies have what they need “to work across the world to bring in new trade partners to expand access to new markets.”

At the same time, she addressed questions about the Trump tariff agenda, saying: “This is no surprise. He believes it is a tool to bring America back to the forefront of the world. He also understands the potential devastating impact to farmers and ranchers. I have spoken with Sonny Perdue on how that was managed in the first term for something similar, to close any potential temporary holes.”

Keenly aware that farmers “want trade not aid,” that they want to “grow markets not government payments,” Rollins said: “President Trump is a consummate deal maker. I believe that his skill and intense focus is on making deals for his people, not only for America, but for the ag community that supported him at 90%. He knows that these are the people who have been with him the longest.”

Rollins served in the last Trump White House in key domestic policy roles. She is well versed in how Trump’s

inter-agency process works, how discussions are handled, what the Oval Office meetings look like, and says she “will ensure our agriculture community is strongly represented at that table.”

She gave the example of working with the incoming labor secretary, if confirmed, on the immigration and ag workforce needs, and asked the Senate to quickly confirm nominated undersecretaries to get the ball rolling.

Several senators said they see Rollins, if confirmed, bringing this “value add” to the Ag Cabinet position as someone who has been with the President for nine years. She knows how his White House process works and pledges to make sure “farmers will be at that table” with her job making sure “agriculture is front and center where decisions

are made.”

From trade and immigration to land management and regulation and from nutrition and hunger to preparing agriculture’s next generation, Rollins was clear: “We will follow the data, and we will listen to our farmers and ranchers as this is moving forward. We as leaders, as agriculture, we will work together to understand and solve these problems.”

Rollins cited these immediate priorities if confirmed as ag secretary:

- Ensuring disaster and economic relief that was passed by Congress at the end of 2024 is deployed quickly into the hands of farmers and ranchers;
- Working with the men and women of USDA and state leaders on animal disease

outbreaks such as H5N1 in poultry and dairy cattle;

• Dedicating timely technical assistance to ensure a modernized farm bill moves forward that meets the needs of farmers and ranchers;

• Modernizing, restructuring, and realigning the U.S. Department of Agriculture;

• Supporting rural development to ensure rural communities are equipped and benefit from development of strong markets, including export markets;

• Eliminating burdensome and costly regulations;

• Preparing the next generation in agriculture; and

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Farmers from Pennsylvania sent aid to North Carolina

Crew from Morrison's Cove delivers hay, fencing materials and supplies

By **KRISTY BIGELOW**
Member of the group that helped

BLAIR COUNTY, Pa. — Lila Sollenberger of Curryville in Blair County, Pennsylvania, was vacationing with her family at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, when Hurricane Helene ripped through parts of North Carolina last September. After returning home to central Pennsylvania and seeing the devastation on the news, she decided to pioneer an effort to help the agricultural communities that had been affected.

"I started the process by contacting North Carolina Extension and working through contacts there to find folks who needed the help. What I heard was that most folks still had their livestock and other animals, but their feed storage was either destroyed or washed away and that's where we started," Lila said.

Her husband, Wes, suggested purchasing a load of hay to take south. When he approached another Blair County farmer about buying several large round bales, the farmer offered to donate them. "That got the wheels turning in my head," Lila said, "I sent a group text to the whole family who all volunteered to support of project, posted a request on social media, and it just took off!"

Lila and the entire Sollenberger family spent countless hours organizing and picking up hay donations and procuring trucks and trailers that local farms, businesses, and indi-



A load of donated hay from Blair County, PA crosses the North Carolina border on its way to a farmer in need.

viduals had donated for the trek south. Several folks volunteered their time as drivers, and the community rallied around Lila's request — donations including dry goods, lumber, hygiene kits, blankets, and frozen meats rolled in.

When Lila realized how many folks wanted to donate monetarily, she opened an account at her local Hometown Bank in Woodbury, Pa. under Hurricane Relief/Lila Sollenberger.

"People have been so generous," she says. "We were able to purchase \$3400 worth of fencing supplies, feed, chainsaws,

heaters, and propane canisters." Along with those items were the fixings to provide several North Carolina families with their Thanksgiving Dinner.

The caravan left Curryville around 5 a.m. on Monday, November 25, carrying the hay, feed, fencing supplies and other items. Once over the North Carolina border, drivers split off to head to their respective drop sites. One such site was in Lansing, N.C. to meet up with a local farmer, Kermit "Chuck" Clark.

"Farmer Chuck," as he prefers to be called, raises beef as well as produce including cabbage, potatoes and sweet corn. He did not lose any livestock, but much of his hay storage was damaged and the produce was ruined by flood waters. The landscape in Lansing still echoed signs of the hurricane — riverbeds were filled with huge rocks and debris that were carried from hillsides, many driveways and roads had make-shift repairs, and

houses that had been swept off their foundations sat resting against the tree line.

As other drivers went farther south, they noted an increased level of devastation and greater need for help. A fire hall in Creston served as a distribution point for donated items, and many folks living in that area were still without electricity, heat and running water.

"We saw some desperate situations — some families were

turn to page 13

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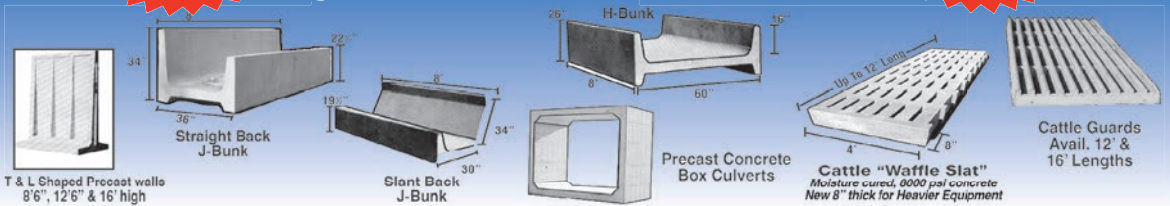
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Monday, February 17

Dairy Old Timer's Luncheon returns to the Tampa area

TAMPA, Fla. — The new and better Old Timer's Luncheon is a great chance to catch up with old dairy friends and meet new ones!

For over 45 years, dairy snowbirds have gathered in Florida for the Old-Timers Luncheon (originally a Breakfast) with 15 to 20 states and provinces of Canada represented for a good old-fashioned get-together. In the past, the breakfast was at the Florida State Fair, however Covid-inspired changes made this less doable. The group will be meeting for lunch at O'Brien's Irish Pub, 701 W. Lumsden Road, Brandon, Fla.

The date is Monday, February 17, starting at noon with greetings to old friends and new acquaintances. Lunch will be served at 1 p.m. to give those who are attending the cow show at the nearby Florida State Fair a chance to join.

And you do not actually even have to be a "old" to attend, since most of the group are in our "new 40s!" You just have to be in Florida in February and be connected to the dairy industry (even if you just like milk!).

The speaker, Madison Dymont, is a PhD candidate at the University of Florida and a previous winner at the World Dairy Expo Collegiate Dairy Judging contest.

To register (and we do need to know ahead, if possible) call, text, or email Gary Mithoefer at 317-225-9025, gmithoefer@comcast.net or Larry Hawkins at 608-516-0101 and lhawk1111@yahoo.com. The meal will be order off the menu. Larry has tested the menu, and reports that it is very good!

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North Carolina from page 12



Volunteers from Blair County, PA help load feed onto Farmer Chuck's pickup in Lansing, North Carolina.

living in tents made from wrapping tarps around tree limbs. There are still so many people that need help," said Lila.

Following that initial November trip, Lila has remained in contact with several folks in Creston. Wes Sollenberger made a return trip in December to help with the plumbing and wiring in one family's home, but the need is still there. The bank account remains open, and the community continues to donate, plus Lila organized a fundraising dinner on January 31 to help raise additional money for the next trip in mid-February.

"We'd like to take more hay down since they'll be feeding through a lot here over the winter, and there's a need to help with things like construction, painting, and cleaning. The guys that I'm in contact with at Creston are excited that we're coming back and looking forward to the help!"

Anyone wishing to donate hay, feed, supplies, or funds is encouraged to contact Lila Sollenberger at 814-381-5796.



A church in Lansing, N.C. stands amidst clean-up efforts following Hurricane Helene.

Photos provided

Precision dairy nutrition prof. joins PSU faculty

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Leoni F. Martins, Ph.D., has been named assistant clinical professor of precision dairy nutrition in the Department of Animal Science, where he will concentrate on precision nutrition, feed and feeding management and nutrient use efficiency in dairy cows.

Lisa Holden, Ph.D., interim head of the Department of Animal Science, said: "We welcome Leoni to our faculty and are pleased to have his dairy nutrition expertise for research and Extension work. He will be an asset to dairy producers and the dairy industry."

A native of Brazil, Martins grew up on a small dairy farm and pursued his veterinary degree at the Federal University of Uberlandia, Brazil. During his first year in veterinary school, realizing that nutrition forms the foundation of dairy cow performance, health and profitability, he began to concentrate on research and extension activities to learn more about ruminant nutrition. He earned his master's degree in veterinary sciences, also from the Federal University of Uberlandia.



Leoni F. Martins

Moving to the United States in 2020 he worked as a research assistant in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences at Purdue University before coming to Penn State to do research under the guidance of Alexander N. Hristov, Ph.D., P.A.S. Martins earned his Ph.D. at Penn State in 2024 with research investigating the intricate interactions between nutrition, ruminal fermentation and dairy cattle physiology. He also served as a teaching assistant.

Martins said he is looking forward to working with dairy producers throughout the state, adding: "Throughout my research endeavors, I have consistently kept in mind the practical applicability of my findings in the field. I look forward to delivering solutions to farmers while actively bringing back data and research questions from the production sector to academia." He added that his goal is to improve understanding of the variability in feed and feeding management in dairy operations to optimize delivery while reducing environmental impacts and enhancing cow performance and health.

A key component of his responsibilities will be to maintain and grow the Penn State Dairy Nutrition Workshop, well known for its long tradition of offering the latest in research and techniques that nutritionists and consultants can apply directly on the farm to maximize profitability.

Martins is a member of the American Dairy Science Association, the American Society of Animal Science, the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists and the Dairy Cattle Reproduction Council.

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Below is the detailed list of the meetings. The Forage Summit meetings will be 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. local time (regardless of time zone).

To register, contact Scott Harris 618-697-7864 or Amy Hoy at 724-263-4778.

Please register at least 1 week in advance of the meeting.

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Green Castle	PA	Friday, February 7, 2025	Mrs Gibbles 7325 Molly Pitcher Hwy, Greencastle, PA 17225



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Cows Got Milk ... Providing Goodness Worldwide is a Farmshine original, introduced in 2013. It is available in lime green, medium gray, light yellow and pink. The shirt's message is meant to help convey a positive message about milk to the public.

Both T-shirt designs have the familiar Farmshine logo on the back.

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Modeling the T-shirt is 4-year-old Geneva Styer.

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SQUEEZE to PLEASE - GRAY	Youth: S <input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	Adult: S <input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	L <input type="checkbox"/>	XL <input type="checkbox"/>	2XL <input type="checkbox"/>
Cows got milk - LIME	Youth: S <input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	Adult: S <input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	L <input type="checkbox"/>	XL <input type="checkbox"/>	2XL <input type="checkbox"/>
Cows got milk - GRAY	Youth: S <input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	Adult: S <input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	L <input type="checkbox"/>	XL <input type="checkbox"/>	2XL <input type="checkbox"/>
Cows got milk - PINK	Youth: S <input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	Adult: S <input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	L <input type="checkbox"/>	XL <input type="checkbox"/>	2XL <input type="checkbox"/>
Cows got milk - YELLOW	Youth: S <input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	Adult: S <input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	L <input type="checkbox"/>	XL <input type="checkbox"/>	2XL <input type="checkbox"/>

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Holstein enthusiasts invited to PHA annual meeting, Feb. 7

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — The Pennsylvania Holstein Association invites all paid members and supporters of the Association to their 112th Annual Meeting on Friday, February 7, at the Wyndham Gettysburg Hotel & Conference Center, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, Pa., starting at 1 p.m. Lunch will be available prior to the meeting from 11:30 to 12:30. Lunch tickets must be purchased through Convention Registration.

This notice of the Annual Meeting is given so that PHA members can be advised to plan on attending. The Annual Meeting will be combined with the Board of Directors meeting and will include Bylaws Revisions (see full proposed Bylaw Revisions on the Association's website), Resolutions Committee, President, and Executive Director reports.

The Pennsylvania Holstein Association encourages your attendance. Please direct any questions to contact@paholsteins.com or call 814-234-0364.

Scholarships presented

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — American Dairy Association Northeast (ADANE) recently presented two scholarships. Hannah Bonczkowski of Otsego, N.Y., received the Dawn Houppert Memorial Scholarship while Elsie Donlick of Cortland, N.Y., was chosen to receive the Leo Briggs Memorial Scholarship.

The \$1000 Dawn Houppert Memorial Scholarship is given annually to a college student who is a current or former dairy promoter in New York State and has completed one year of post-secondary education. The scholarship was created in memory of Houppert, who worked for dairy farmers and ADA North East for more than two decades, including managing the dairy princess program for 10 years.

Hannah served as the Otsego County Dairy Ambassador and focused on ADA North East's Fill a Glass with Hope® program that helps food banks secure milk for families in need. Now a sophomore at SUNY Morrisville, she is studying agricultural sciences with a concentration in education.

Elsie received the \$500 Leo Briggs Memorial - American Dairy Association North East Scholarship given annually to a college student who has completed one year of post-secondary education and is from the ADA North East territory. The Briggs award is given to someone who followed Briggs' legacy of leadership in dairy promotion.

Elsie, a Cortland County junior and associate ambassador, is a sophomore at SUNY Cobleskill studying animal science. She has been active in 4-H and the Holstein Association and aspires to work in animal agriculture.



Donlick



Bonczkowski



Pictured from left to right, back row: Olivia Neff, Meredith Barkley, Owen Brofee, Sadie Innerst. Front row, same order: Libby Sauder, Emmitt Brofee, Chloe Laverity.

4-H Dairy Club reorganizes; next meeting is February 3rd

NEW BLOOMFIELD, Pa. — The Perry County 4-H Dairy Club had their first organizational meeting of 2025 on Monday January 15th. The new officers are Owen Brofee, president; Sadie Innerst, vice president; Olivia Neff, secretary; Evan Fleisher, treasurer; Meredith Barkley, news reporter; Chloe Laverity, historian; Libby Sauder and Emmitt Brofee, game leaders; Owen Brofee and Olivia Neff, County Council. An activity calendar was approved. The next meeting is scheduled for February 3 at the Perry County Extension Office, 8 South Carlisle Street, New Bloomfield.

Volatile markets again this week

Beef cattle prices on cash and futures markets, along with market dairy cow prices at local auctions, surged higher again this week after Friday's Cattle on Feed Report showed 1% fewer cattle on feed, with Jan. 1 placements down an unexpected 3% year-over-year (YOY). This comes after Dec. 2024 fed cattle marketings were up 1% YOY. Steers on feed were up 1% YOY, but heifers on feed were down 3%, indicating some heifers may have been retained for breeding, but we don't know the calf crop. All eyes are on this Friday's Jan. 1 All Cattle and Calf Inventory Report, after former Sec. Vilsack canceled the Mid-Year Report, to get a handle on beef and dairy cattle herd and replacement numbers as well as calf crop.

Corn added to last week's gains, with \$5's on the board for May and July, while soybean meal saw a modest pullback this week across the board.

Dairy markets were mixed as Class III milk futures erased most of the losses of the past two weeks on the heels of an uptrending spot cheese market, while Class IV milk futures moved lower on weaker butter and powder spot prices. The spread between the 12-month average futures prices stands at about \$1.00, with Class IV still above Class III.

Cl. III milk futures rally higher, Cl. IV down

Class III milk futures surged 80 cents to \$1.30 higher in the front months of Feb. through April, up 30 to 60 cents for May and June, and up 10 to 20 cents for July through September. Q4 2025 futures were modestly lower. The Class III milk futures average for the 12 months of 2025 came in at \$19.36 on the close Wed., Jan. 29 – up 31 cents from the 12-month average on the prior Wednesday. Class IV milk futures were lower across the board, and the 12-month average trimmed 18 cents at \$20.37.

CME spot cheese surges as reports show 0.5% less milk and 6% less cheese in stocks

Spot cheese prices are the big story, surging higher this week, just after the Class I base mover was set for February on advance pricing factors ahead of the recovery.

The rally began after last Friday's Cold Storage Report showed total natural cheese inventory down 6% year-over-year (YOY) on Dec. 31st, with American style cheese stocks down a whopping 8% YOY. Meanwhile, the USDA Milk Production Report, also released last Friday, Jan. 24, showed milk production down 0.5% YOY in December.

California's output was down 6.8%, where new outbreaks of bird flu continue to be reported on dairies through December and as recently as Jan. 27. The nation's number one dairy state has now seen HPAI H5N1 hit fully 75% of its dairies since the outbreak began in September. Apart from California, only one other detection is reported in Michigan within the past 30 days (Dec. 30), which is being questioned as to its significance.

On Wed., Jan. 29, the 40-lb block cheddar price gained 15 cents per pound to fully recover the past two weeks of losses, pegged at \$1.93/lb with 20 loads trading over 5 days. The 500-lb barrel cheese price gained a nickel, pegged at \$1.8650/lb with 12 loads changing hands. Blocks are once again above barrels, by 6 pennies.

The daily CME spot market for dry whey dropped a penny this week, pegged at 69 cents per pound with just 4 loads trading across 5 days.

On the Class IV side, the spot butter price lost 6 cents at \$2.46/lb Wed., Jan. 29, with 24 loads trading over the 5 days. The Jan. 24 Cold Storage Report showed butter inventory up 11% YOY at the end of Dec. 2024. Nonfat dry milk lost a penny in the spot market this week, pegged at \$1.3450/lb on 4 loads.

Feb. Class I mover up nearly \$1 at \$21.27

The February advance Class I base price mover was announced at \$21.27 on Jan. 23, up 89 cents per cwt above January's, and up \$3.28 from a year ago. This is 44 cents higher than it would have been if the 'higher of' method was used to calculate Class I skim price, as Class III and IV advance skim pricing factors came closer together in the first two weeks of January when the base Class I price for the following month is set.

Checkoff panel to help us 'embrace' aseptic milk, molecular maximization at Dairy Summit

According to a news release from American Dairy Association Northeast, a panel discussion will be presented at the PA Dairy Summit next week (Feb. 5-6) in State College called "Emerging Market for Fluid Dairy: Aseptic Milk and Milk Molecule Maximization." The panel is hosted by the checkoff organizations ADANE, DMI, and the Pa. Dairy Promotion Program. It will feature DMI's "head of wellness, innovation and business development" Paul Ziemnisky along with Rebecca Shaw Pfeiffer of Maola Local Dairies (formerly Maryland-Virginia cooperative) to discuss (and this is a quote) "embracing innovation and pursuing new market opportunities for fluid milk."

ADANE director of consumer confidence Beth Meyer will also lead a panel discussion with Maryland dairy farmers Brooks Long and Alice and Caleb Crothers: "The Power of Public Perception: The Good and Bad of Interacting with Consumers." From navigating through a crisis situation to knowing what to say and what not to say to the public.

This ought to be interesting. My questions for DMI's 'head of wellness, innovation, and business development' on the aseptic push panel are: 1) With limited research publicly available showing some changes to the structure of the casein and especially whey proteins as well as fat, calcium, and other elements naturally found in milk after UHT processing and higher pressure homogenization for aseptic packaging, what can you **definitively** tell us about the nutritional properties of aseptically packaged milk for shelf-stable distribution vs. fresh, con-



ventionally pasteurized milk? And what about taste tests and consumer acceptance? Additionally, how in the world are the elderly, arthritic, or children for that matter, supposed to open some of these 2- and 3-seal bottles? Asking for a friend.

On another note, this comes at a time when USDA and HHS are believed to be moving toward less ultra processed foods, not more ultra processed foods. What's the main driver here?

Covington's FMMO analysis addendum for Northeast

Calvin Covington broke down the approved FMMO pricing changes while speaking at the Georgia Dairy Conference last week (see pages 8 and 9). Then this week, he was in eastern Lancaster County for R&J Dairy Consulting's 18th Annual Dairy Seminar, where he gave a Northeast slant to it.

On the increases to Class I differentials, said Covington, dairy farmers in the Northeast will have to get used to what this looks like on their milk checks, and they will also see more incentive to move milk South under these new differentials. "Each county has a differential assigned to it," he said, pointing

to New Holland, for example, seeing a \$1.40 per cwt. increase in Class I differential in the approved FMMO rule. But this is smaller than the much larger increase at the Northeast Order's base zone at Boston, Mass.

"That big increase in Boston is because there's not much milk there, and it's raised to get the milk to move to the people there," he said. This means that even though the new Class I differential will raise the Class I price in New Holland, for example, "farmers will have to get used to seeing their location differential as a bigger negative on the milk check, because the increased differential in Boston is so much bigger."

On the make allowance increases, Covington noted that this will manifest as lower butterfat and other solids component prices for the Northeast. "We would expect the protein price to be higher, based on history, but it depends on the block to barrel spread and its relationship to the butterfat price," he said. After June 1, the protein price will only use block cheese prices.

On the 'unvetted' ESL adjuster that surprised even Covington, he said: "As ESL grows, there could be some months with a price advantage, and that difference, based on history, could be as much as \$1.00 per cwt in some months. That kind of difference (in raw milk costs at the same location) can create disparity between conventional and ESL milk. The thing is, we just don't know, going forward, what it's going to look like."

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Holstein

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CESSNA BROS. FARM	25887	1100	818
SAVAGE-LEIGH FARM	24840	1047	785
LAVON YODER	24745	981	769
MIKE & ANITA HAINES	26040	875	778

GLEN-TOCTIN FARM	22631	916	732
TOBIE KINSINGER FM.2	22008	913	677
THOMAS MULLER JR.	21193	891	689
PAUL & HENRY KINSINGER	21019	884	657
DAVID E. YODER	18826	820	607

Ayrshire

ROOM-TO-GROW	1474	53	41
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Guernsey

WALNUT RIDGE GUERNSEY	15955	791	571
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Jersey

WALNUT RIDGE JERSEYS	14850	787	557
MIKE & ANITA HAINES 2	15069	774	565
SPRING VALLEY JERSEYS	12468	634	466
ELI SWARTZENTRUBER	11053	567	429

Crawford County DHIA

DECEMBER 2024

Crawford

JEFFREY RANEY	55 HO	30039	1219	987
SHANNON & BRENDA IRWIN	147 HO	27834	1252	954
TODD & ANN KANTZ	22 HO	28588	1167	932
MARK BRANTNER	73 HO	28304	1083	889
ALRIGHT FARMS	119 XX	27137	1050	836
BRENNER DAIRY	143 HO	25044	1080	824
RYND HOME FARMS	174 HO	25072	1023	798
JACOB J. SCHLABACH	145 HO	23477	980	768
LYNNWOOD HEAGY	138 HO	22424	952	756
SPRUCE ROW FARMS	218 JE	19240	996	736
CASH MATT HORNE	91 XX	20557	942	733
CUSTEAD-VALLEY FARMS	128 HO	23388	847	718
TODD & ANN KANTZ	86 JE	19282	968	717
MATTHEW & DORATHY IRW	60 HO	23979	889	710
HART FARM	110 HO	22695	893	709
R. DEETER FARM	29 HO	22717	864	697
STEVE MANDL	28 HO	21172	815	632
MATTHEW & DORATHY IRW	52 XX	18144	777	604
RYND HOME FARMS	17 XX	18130	737	602

HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000

STEVE MANDL	HO	57	28
RYND HOME FARMS	XX	70	17
TODD & ANN KANTZ	JE	89	86
TODD & ANN KANTZ	HO	102	22
MATTHEW & DORATHY IRWIN	HO	128	60
JEFFREY RANEY	HO	132	55
MARK BRANTNER	HO	136	73
GARRETT & MAGGIE MASE	XX	154	11

JACOB J. SCHLABACH	HO	155	145
SHANNON & BRENDA IRWIN	HO	156	147
MATTHEW & DORATHY IRWIN	XX	161	52
RYND HOME FARMS	HO	192	174

Erie

ARDF LLC	46 HO	19263	812	630
ARDF LLC	HO	188	46	

Lawrence

SNYDER DAIRY FARM	319 HO	22565	907	740
LUKE & CASEY WHITE	53 JE	18278	925	666

Mercer

WEST BRANCH HOLSTEIN	350 HO	26180	1045	833
VAN DE JERSEY	338 JE	17894	1064	692
EALY'S HIGHLAND FARM	12 GU	17162	806	576
EALY'S HIGHLAND FARM	27 GU	16075	800	561
GARY MASE	29 XX	17027	672	542

Venango

PAT & MIKE CAREY	76 HO	27930	987	874
MITCHELL DAIRY	156 HO	25304	1093	814

ROLLING SPRING FARM	121 HO	21525	894	745
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OHIO

Ashtabula

WILSON DAIRY FARM	182 HO	26475	1009	805
MILLARD DAIRY LLC	206 HO	25243	1045	801
SPRINGER DAIRY FARMS	127 HO	22943	923	714

Carroll

PAUL FISHER	93 XX	21089	1060	771
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Geauga

CHARLES SOLTIS	148 HO	24949	998	816
CHARLES SOLTIS	HO	98	182	
CHARLES SOLTIS	HO	100	206	

Trumbull

PHILSON, VANESSA	17 XX	23857	946	742
GLENN R. BRUGLER	105 HO	19402	797	641

DRMS introduces Jena Swanson

RALEIGH, N.C. — Jena Swanson has been named manager of marketing and outreach at Dairy Records Management Systems (DRMS). A graduate of the University of Wisconsin–River Falls with a bachelor's degree in marketing communications, she will lead marketing and customer engagement efforts to reach dairy farmers and support the organization's objectives to serve the dairy industry. She brings over 18 years of livestock industry-focused, B2B marketing experience to the organization.



Jena Swanson

men's Association Board of Directors, holding various leadership roles and committee responsibilities.

Aaron Rose, DRMS chief financial officer, adds, "Jena's appointment underscores our commitment to providing the dairy industry with superior data-driven solutions. Her vision and energy will be instrumental as we expand our outreach and strengthen our role as a trusted partner for dairy producers."

Swanson has held marketing roles across cooperatives and marketing agencies including Central Livestock Association, Bader Rutter and Filament. Her industry experience encompasses livestock marketing, equipment, animal health and animal nutrition.

Her connection to the livestock industry was cultivated on her family's beef cow/calf operation in Cushing, Wis. She carried this passion to serve on the Wisconsin Cattle-

assistant director for product development, states, "We have several new, exciting product releases planned for 2025. Jena brings the marketing and outreach experience to develop successful go-to market strategies to engage our industry partners and producers."

DRMS is a non-profit organization that has been an integral part of North Carolina State University and Iowa State University for over 60 years.

Maryland Dairy Shrine slates awards dinner, Feb. 22

WEST FRIENDSHIP, Md. — The Maryland Dairy Shrine will hold its annual awards dinner at the Howard County Fairgrounds on February 22, starting at 6:30 p.m. All dairy enthusiasts and supporters are encouraged to attend in celebration and bid on auction items to benefit Maryland Dairy Shrine and the Maryland PDCA. The Fairgrounds location

is: 2210 Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship. For tickets and more information, visit: sites.google.com/site/mddairyshrine/news-information or mail your request to Nicole Forsythe, 10226 Downsville Pike, Hagerstown, MD 21740.

RSVPs are due by February 14.

Attention Juniors! Scholarship applications need to be sent

FREDERICK, Md. — The Maryland Holstein Association will be awarding up to \$5000 in scholarships this year. Eligible youths must be enrolled in a 2- or 4-year college, vocational school or graduate program. Scholarship applications should be e-mailed to Dee

Shafer: shafdon@aol.com Applications, complete with all eligibility requirements and other details are available on the Maryland Holstein website at www.marylandholstein.com under the juniors tab. Applications are due by Feb. 15.

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- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
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| Pepper cabbage | Hot choc. w/ whole milk |

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Sign up for DMC and other USDA risk management programs has begun

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Sign up for the Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) Program began on Wednesday, January 29, and will end on March 31. Producers who are interested in enrolling in DMC for 2025 should contact their local USDA Service Center.

Currently the DMC Decision Tool (dmc.dairymarkets.org) forecasts margins to remain above \$13/cwt for the rest of the year. Farmers can calculate potential premiums, see forecasted prices, and benefits projections at <https://dmc.dairymarkets.org/#/>

The Ag Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss

Coverage (PLC) programs for certain crops are also receiving applications for the 2025 crop year. These signups began Jan. 21 and will end on April 15.

Farmers are reminded that even if they are not changing their program election options for 2025, they still need to sign a contract to enroll for DMC, ARC, and/or PLC.

At 15 cents per hundredweight cost for \$9.50 per hundredweight (maximum tier one) margin coverage, the DMC is viewed by experts as a relatively inexpensive way for dairy farmers to cover the first 5 million

pounds of their annual production history against adverse changes and/or market volatility in 2025.

DMC is a voluntary risk management program that offers protection to dairy producers when the difference between the all-milk price and the average feed price (the margin) falls below a certain dollar amount selected by the producer.

The program offers different levels of coverage, even a catastrophic (\$4.50) margin coverage option that is free to producers, minus a \$100 administrative fee. The admin-

istrative fee is waived for dairy producers who are considered limited resource, beginning, socially disadvantaged or a military veteran.

DMC payments are calculated using updated feed and premium hay costs, making the program more reflective of actual dairy producer expenses. These updated feed calculations use 100% premium alfalfa hay.

For more information on DMC, visit <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/resources/programs/dairy-margin-coverage-program-dmc>

Consumers keep fleeing from plant-based beverages

ARLINGTON, Va. — Consumers keep fleeing from plant-based beverages, declares the National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF) after reviewing the latest data.

Circana, which tracks retail sales scans, milk's sales volume relative to plant-based beverages rose again in 2024, with its relative share now at its highest since 2019. While milk consumption stayed essentially flat, plant-based beverage consumption fell for its third consecutive year, with almond and soy continuing to fall and oats going

nowhere.

What does it all mean?

It likely means that consumers are continuing to catch on to the misleading arguments of plant-based beverage purveyors. It means that people who are seeking truly healthy, sustainable products are rediscovering dairy. It also means that the government should catch up to the people it serves by encouraging healthy choices through enforcing its own standards of identity for dairy terms and making it clear that plant-based

alternatives don't provide the nutrition consumers expect from milk.

But even though all the above is true, we'd answer that question with one word: Sanity. After decades of dishonest marketing and open disregard for FDA rules, truth and healthy nutrition are winning. And dairy farmers are happy to keep that positive trend going, by providing the world's most perfect beverage, one that's increasingly chosen over

the dishonest knockoffs.

Raise your glass, and many more. It's the increasingly popular thing to do.

The National Milk Producers Federation, based in Arlington, Va., develops and carries out policies that advance dairy producers and the cooperatives they own. NMPF's member cooperatives produce more than two-thirds of U.S. milk, making NMPF dairy's voice on Capitol Hill and with government agencies.

Alltech expands mycotoxin testing

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Alltech announces the expansion of its mycotoxin testing program Alltech® RAPIREAD™, which now includes a new collaboration with Waters™ | VICAM® and the connection to its analytical tool, Vertu™ TOUCH. Offering simple touch-screen operation, the Vertu TOUCH lateral flow strip test reader works in concert with VICAM's Vertu strip tests to deliver full-range quantitative results for up to six major mycotoxins, including aflatoxin, fumonisin, vomitoxin (DON), zearalenone, ochratoxin A and the combination of T-2 and HT-2 toxins.

Mycotoxins, which are natural substances produced by molds and fungi, are more prevalent — and more of a problem in agriculture — than ever before. Results from the 2024 Alltech Harvest Analysis show that more than 95% of crops today are contami-

nated with at least one mycotoxin and usually two or more, thus demonstrating the need for robust quality control programs. Because these toxins are difficult to detect, they can cause significant damage to animal health before producers even realize they are present, hence a proactive mycotoxin management program is essential.

"Rapid tests at the feed mill or on-farm can be used to detect the mycotoxin type or content," said Dr. Alexandra Weaver, global technical support for Alltech. "Including Alltech RAPIREAD can assist in understanding how the mycotoxins could actually impact the performance, health or profitability of production."

For more information about Alltech's mycotoxin management solutions, please visit knowmycotoxins.com.

Free book features animal care

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The Center for Dairy Excellence is once again offering free copies of Animal Care Protocol Record-Keeping Books to Pennsylvania dairy producers and veterinarians. With more than 3900 books distributed to date, they have been created to help Pennsylvania dairy farm families comply with National FARM requirements associated with record keeping. One book should cover one program year for a smaller-sized herd. To request a free copy of the book, visit www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/request-book or call 717-788-0304.

"With the start of 2024, it's the perfect time to request a copy of these record-keeping books to establish a good system for managing animal care efforts and protocols on your dairy operation. We continue to keep these record-keeping books updated over time as the National FARM program revises their requirements," said Jayne Sebright, executive director at the Center for Dairy Excellence. "The books include a family cow care agreement, pages to help producers document standard operating procedures and treatments of their dairy animals, and more."

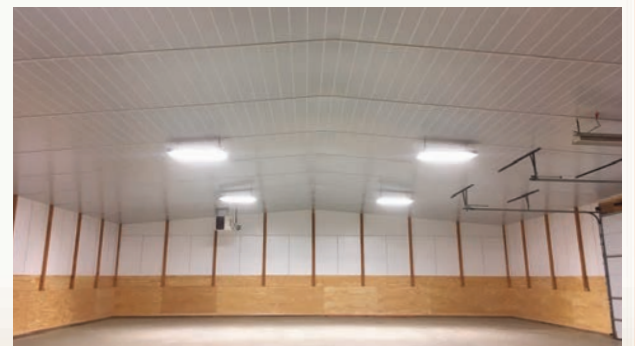
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Bird Flu & your milking machine

A recent New York Times article about bird flu states: "But data strongly suggests that the virus, known as H5N1, has spread primarily through milk. It replicates quickly in the udders of infected cows, which produce milk with sky-high levels of the pathogen." It was stated that researchers believe new infections are occurring through contaminated milking equipment much like Staph aureus. University research has already proven that TridentPulsation™ technology virtually eliminates new Staph aureus infections.

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COMING EARLY THIS YEAR ... ON MARCH 21

Consignments invited for Mid Atlantic Brown Swiss Calf Sale

FREDERICK, Md. — Consignments are being sought for the Mid Atlantic Brown Swiss Calf Sale, to be held on Friday, March 21 at the Frederick Fairgrounds in Frederick, starting at noon. Celebrating 51 years, the sale will be held a little earlier than in the past. Chris Hill will be the auctioneer while Jake Hushon will reading pedigrees.

Sale organizers are looking for a strong group of calves that combine a unique blend of production and sound type. Something new for this year; the sale committee will be accepting bred heifers down the December 2024 calves. Also, you can consign March calves and embryo packages in absenteeism. All pedigrees and information will be in a printed catalog and also posted on line.

There has always been a strong demand for the calves that go through this popular Spring sale. Consignments from past sales have gone on to do well for their new owners. Many that were shown stood in the first five placings of their class.

Please note that this sale is on Friday March 21 and there will be a food truck on site from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. serving free lunch to possible buyers and consignors. At 11:30 a.m. a fun auction will be held. Proceeds benefit juniors

and other Maryland Brown Swiss Association causes.

If you are interested in consigning a calf, or wish additional information about the sale, please contact: Joy Widerman 717-752-5871; Ellie Widerman 717-398-4307; Jenna Lenhart 814-931-3726; Billie Jo Rhodes 540-292-9366; or Dylan Fry 410-708-8983.

Please don't delay; the sale committee would like to have information and pedigrees as soon as possible to advertise and compile the catalog. Remember to tell new 4-Her's, and their breeders in your area about the quality and success of this sale. There is always something for everyone. Now is the time to get into the Brown Swiss business as their popularity continues to grow stronger each year.

This sale has gained quite a track record for calves sold. Many have developed into National Bellringers, All-Americans and profitable additions to many herds. Now is your chance to consign to this sale; check those calf pens and pedigrees and see what you can offer.

This sale has been a great place to buy a 4-H project and has provided some top-pedigreed calves for the merchandising and investment buyer.



Need Swiss?



SELLING HERSELF: EX-92 Silver Kadence sells milking 4th lactation, with 6+ daughters and 15+

Auction Spring Opportunity @ Pine-Tree II, Brown Swiss & Jersey Edition Wooster, OH ~ Tuesday, March 18th

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(650 Cu. Ft. per skid).....

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EMERGENCY SHORT NOTICE DISPERSAL DUE TO HEALTH REASONS HADLOCK DAIRY COMPLETE REGISTERED & GRADE DISPERSAL

Friday, February 7, 2025 • 11:30 A.M. • Sale to be held at Hosking Sales Facility

Directions: 6096 NYS Route 8, New Berlin, NY 13411. 30 miles South of Utica on Route 8, 6 miles North of New Berlin

DHI RHA 23,636 4.1 978 3.4 762 • SCC 200,000 • Selling 100 head of Reg. & Grade Holsteins with most of the herd being R&W 75 milking age – ave. 77#/day in all stages of lactation, 9 bred heifers, balance open heifers. AMAZING HERD OF COWS!

A FEW SALE HIGHLIGHTS:



Cashells Un Cutie-Red-ET EX-94

3-00 290 26,953 4.1 1093 3.0 806
Nom. AA Jr. 3Y 2022

Selling from the "Cutie" Family a GP-83 @ 2Y R&W x Jordy, fresh in October and bred back to Exclusive-Red. Beautiful young cow with a great udder, would be a great Jr. show cow & a great pedigree to breed from. Dam EX-91 (mat. sister to Cutie) 2D: 2E-93, next three dams EX.



Krull Broker Elegance 3E-96 EEEEE GMD DOM

8-07 365 35,240 4.4 1550 3.0 1069

Selling from the Elegance Family watch for "Embark" R&W x Unstopabull just fresh in Dec. milking well over 100# – will easily score 90 or higher. Has the potential to be a National Caliber Aged Cow. Dam VG-88 followed by eight EX's.

Sale Staff:
Tom Hosking Auct. 607-972-1770
Dan Hosking Auct. 607-972-8773
Dan Stoltzfus 717-283-7282
Jarrod Burleigh 570-772-3542



Oakfield Lo Scarlett-Red-ET 2E-94 EEEEE 8Y

7-06 365 42,150 4.1 1734 3.4 1421

Selling her R&W daughter x Unstopabull is ready to go dry, due in the Spring to Ropen-Red. She had a maternal sister sell for \$17,200. 2D: Stony-Pillar Sharmaine-Red 2E-94.

Owners:
Hadlock Dairy
Jim & Alexa Hadlock
3394 St. Hwy 23
West Oneonta, NY 13861
Home – 607-267-4996
Alexa – 607-267-2530



Mischke Durham Krystal 2E-95

5-10 365 42,520 3.8 1635 3.2 1361

Res. All-Am. & All Can. Aged Cow
Selling from this family: a Potential 5th gen. EX- R&W x Diamondback fresh in Sept., due back to Etowah-Red. A really nice cow with a beautiful udder and milking exceptionally well.



Ovaltop Jordy Rojo-Red EX-92 EEEEE

2-11 365 30,860 3.8 1175 3.0 919

R&W Jr. AA Jr. 3Y 2022
5th NE Spring Nat'l Jr. 3Y 2022
Her VG-85 R&W dtr. X Unstopabull sells – a really nice individual due back in the summer to Rifle-Red and looks great. Her R&W dtr. X Altitude also sells.



Tiger-Lily Apple Pie-Red-ET 2E-94 EEEEE 6Y

5-08 365 36,320 4.8 1744 3.2 1148

R&W Res. Jr. All-American 5Y 2022
Her R&W dtr. X Analyst – Potential 10th gen. EX sells fresh in Nov. Milking over 90# looks great.

Special Mention

R&W Altitude (Locust-Vale breeding) – Sr. 3Y for 2025 due in March to Galore-Red. Could be the BEST young cow we see sell here in 2025!!

***Manager's Note:** Tiestall herd that goes out daily. Dry Cows & bred heifers are housed in a freestall. All cattle are fed a TMR and are milking incredibly well. All cattle will be inoculated against shipping fever and pregnancy examined prior to sale and Avian Flu tested to be able to go anywhere. Jim & Alexa have always bought the best and this herd shows that. A herd does not score and needs to see a classifier. This herd would not be available if there weren't health issues – so come out and support Jim & Alexa and take home some great cattle!



PLEASE REGISTER PRIOR TO SALE DAY!
Bid online in Real Time – Bidders must pre-register and be pre-approved prior to sale. For anything purchased on Cowbuyer, payment is expected within 7 days or wired on the next business day.



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Markets

Kutztown Auction

January 25, 2025

Alfalfa	180-300
Alfalfa/grass	220
Grass	160-230
Orchard	170-270
Mixed hay	150-280
Timothy	280
Straw	150

Livestock Auction

January 28, 2025

Mixed hay	3.25-6.25
Orchard	4.75
Timothy	5.00
Grass	2.50-12.75
Straw	4.00-4.75

Wolgemuth Auction

January 22, 2025

Alfalfa	405
Mixed hay	125-415
Timothy	210
Grass	150-320
Straw	195-210
Orchard	175-200
Corn Fodder	115-130

Dewart Auction

Dewart, Pa.
January 27, 2025

Cattle: 145	
Slaughter cattle:	
Holstein steers:	
Select	163
Slaughter cows:	
PrmWht 65-75% lean	132-151
Breakers 75-80% lean	
	126-130
Boners 80-85% lean	118-153
Lean 85-90% lean	94-147
Slaughter bulls	145-170
Feeder cattle:	
Steers:	
M/L-1-2	182-300
Holstein steers:	
L-3	132-167
Heifers:	
M/L-1-2	177-255
Bulls:	
M/L-1-2	155-237
Calves: 325	
Feeder calves:	
#1 Hol bulls	600-860
#2 Hol bulls	500-620
#3 Hol bulls	280
Utility bulls	30-80
Hol heifers	475-575

Greencastle Livestock

Greencastle, Pa.
January 27, 2025

Cattle: 504	
Slaughter cattle:	
Steers:	
HiCho & Prm	208-221
Choice	199-207

Select	192-198
Holstein steers:	
HiCho & Prm	177-180
Choice	173-175
Heifers:	
HiCho & Prm	202-216
Choice	195-200
Slaughter cows:	
Breakers 75-80% lean	
	130-138
Boners 80-85% lean	115-130
Lean 85-90% lean	98-118
Slaughter bulls	155-170
Calves: 425	
Feeder calves:	
#1 Hol bulls	600-720
#2 Hol bulls	500-600
#3 Hol bulls	400-460
Utility bulls	100-150
#1 Hol heifers	600-780
#2 Hol heifers	470-550

Hosking Sales

New Berlin, N.Y.
January 27, 2025

Cattle:	
Dairy cows	1.13
Bone utility	.90-1.50
Canners & cutters 1.08 & down	
Easy cows .70 & down	
Bulls over 1100 lbs.	1.47-1.57
Maiden heifers	1.43
Feeders:	
Dairy	1.07-1.57
Calves:	
Bull	top 8.00
Heifer	top 7.70

Livestock Auction

Hackettstown, N.J.
January 28, 2025

Calves	.10-3.72
Cows	.40-1.03
Feeders	.02-1.27
Heifers	.45-1.31
Steers	1.58

Morrison's Cove

Martinsburg, Pa.
January 27, 2025

Cattle: 69	
Cows:	
Good	1.10-1.27
Lean	.92-1.14
Light/Thin	.62-.90
Bulls:	
2000 lbs. & up	1.40-1.50
1300-1999 lbs.	1.42-1.47
900-1299 lbs.	1.46
Fat cattle:	
Holstein choice	1.70-1.75
Holstein select	1.45-1.65
Calves: 109	
Holstein bulls:	
100-110 lbs.	5.50-6.90
90-99 lbs.	6.00-6.90
80-89 lbs.	6.10-7.25
70-79 lbs.	2.00-5.00
Holstein heifers:	
90-100 lbs.	4.50-6.00
70-89 lbs.	2.50-5.00

CDE DAIRY MARKETS & MANAGEMENT UPDATE

All prices — JAN. 29, 2025 — except where noted

By BRIAN REED
DVM, MBA
bcreedvdm@outlook.com



The planning season: Once the harvest is in, the deer have been hunted, and the holidays have been celebrated with family and friends, it's time for the planning season. Over my career, I find that a lot of the long-term planning that occurs on dairy farms happens this time of year. Based on my experiences as a dairy veterinarian and farm business and transition consultant, I've been asked to discuss 5 important concepts to keep in mind as you consider the transition plan for your dairy farm.

1. A good farm transition plan recognizes the fact that the process of transitioning between generations can take anywhere from a few years to a couple of decades. It generally is not a sudden event in which everything is transferred at one time, although sometimes it is forced by circumstances. The transition includes not only the transfer of the various assets of the operation, but also management know-how and responsibilities. Each generation involved is shifting from one stage of life to a different stage of life, which can take some time to deal with.

2. Many farm transitions occur in a stepwise manner due to the scale of assets to be transferred, along with the associated debt obligations. It is just too much to take on at one time to transfer everything at once. Although many different routes can be taken, many dairy operations start with the transfer of livestock, followed by or coinciding with machinery, and finally getting to the transfer of real estate assets once the other debts are taken care of. Because of this, it is important to start transferring assets quite a few years before wanting to ultimately transfer the farm's real estate.

3. A farm that is already profitable and properly scaled with functional facilities is easier to develop a transition plan for. There oftentimes needs to be a certain amount of unused debt capacity available to accomplish the transfer of assets, as well as providing for the retirement needs of the older generation. A low-profit farm that is under scaled needs funds for modernization or is required to transfer at market value to support the

older generation can be a huge hurdle for continuing the farm into the next generation. Put effort into addressing these concerns at least a few years before the intended transfer date to adjust the business plan of the farm.

4. Communication and engagement between family members is probably the most important factor in successful farm transitions. As you can see from the above list, this process is not usually a short conversation that just happens then everything is solved. It is a process that should include all relevant family members. All should be involved from the beginning of the planning process, so all ideas, goals and concerns of family members are considered. Doing this is important for the buy-in of everyone involved, versus just giving an ultimatum from one person's perspective about how it will happen. I have been called into many situations when that approach has not worked well at all. It is also a good idea to maintain good communications with non-farming family members through the process. Even though they may not be involved in the family business, they are still in the family and can feel rejected otherwise. That is not what most families I work with want to happen.

5. Assistance is available! Nobody can do all of this themselves. People and resources are available to help with facilitated family discussions, business planning, feasibility studies, tax and financial planning, and securing lending and legal help to put everything in place. The Center for Dairy Excellence has various grant programs available to assist with hiring consultants and teams of advisors as well as personnel to directly assist you. In addition, Penn State Extension, various lending organizations and private consultants of all kinds are available to help. If you are not sure where to start, please reach out to Melissa Anderson with the Center for Dairy Excellence at 717-346-0849 or manderson@centerfordairyexcellence.org, and she will help guide you to the resources that are appropriate for your situation.

Good luck to you in this planning season!

CME DAILY FUTURES & OPTIONS TRADING — JAN. 29, 2025 AT THE CLOSE

	JAN-25	FEB-25	MAR-25	APR-25	MAY-25	JUN-25	JUL-25	AUG-25	SEP-25	OCT-25	NOV-25	DEC-25	TREND											
CLASS III MILK FUTURES (\$/CWT) vs. wk ago: Jan firm; Feb-Apr up \$0.80-1.30; May-Jun up \$0.30-0.60; Jul-Sep up \$0.10-0.20; Oct-Nov dn \$0.05-0.10; Dec firm. 12-Month Avg. 19.36 ↑↑																								
	20.29	20.30	19.96	19.67	19.54	18.84	19.00	19.06	19.10	19.03	18.82	18.75	↑↑											
CLASS IV MILK FUTURES (\$/CWT) vs. wk ago: Jan steady; Feb-Jun dn \$0.30-0.50, Jul-Dec weak to \$0.10, mostly \$0.05 lower. 12-Month Avg. 20.37 ↓↓																								
	20.86	20.34	20.05	20.10	20.49	19.90	20.32	20.40	20.50	20.60	20.55	20.30	↓↓											
MILK BASIS (MAILBOX minus CLASS 3 \$/CWT) 2018-23 AVG FOR NORTHEAST & MIDEAST STATES OF PA, NY, NEW ENGL., OH vs. NAT'L AVERAGE - YOUR INDIVIDUAL BASIS WILL VARY																								
Mailbox	19.22	18.75	18.82	18.25	18.96	18.48	18.64	18.27	18.52	18.15	18.68	18.38	18.65	18.35	18.62	18.41	19.27	18.75	20.20	19.76	20.58	20.17	20.25	19.64
Class III	16.81	16.81	16.03	16.03	16.98	16.98	17.31	17.31	17.33	17.33	18.16	18.16	18.16	18.16	17.59	17.59	17.60	17.60	18.72	18.72	19.07	19.07	17.30	17.30
BASIS	2.41	1.94	2.79	2.22	1.98	1.50	1.33	0.96	1.19	0.82	0.52	0.22	0.49	0.19	1.03	0.82	1.67	1.15	1.48	1.04	1.51	1.10	2.95	2.34

	MAR-25	MAY-25	JUL-25	SEP-25	DEC-25	MAR-26	MAY-26	JUL-26	SEP-26	DEC-26	MAR-27	JUL-27	TREND					
CORN FUTURES (\$/BU)																		
	4.962	5.062	5.076	4.690	4.662	4.766	4.832	4.866	4.666	4.646	4.764	4.840	↑↑					
SOYMEAL FUTURES (\$/TON)																		
	309.5	317.7	325.1	326.5	326.7	326.5	329.3	329.9	329.4	330.3	332.5	N/A	↓↓					
U.S. AVG PREMIUM ALFALFA & ALFALFA/GRASS HAY 20-22% CP - Source: USDA Monthly National Dairy Comprehensive Report																		
SEP-23	238.50	217.82	240.41	231.70	254.85	224.50	205.02	220.17	175.00	211.69	185.21	196.44	199.57	206.63	192.20	*DEC-24	184.82	↓↓

DMC	JUL-23	AUG-23	SEP-23	OCT-23	NOV-23	DEC-23	JAN-24	FEB-24	MAR-24	APR-24	MAY-24	JUN-24	JUL-24	AUG-24	SEP-24	OCT-24	*NOV-24	TREND
DMC OFFICIAL GROSS MARGINS per cwt (USDA All-Milk, com, alfalfa & Ill. soybean, feed for ALL CLASSES of dairy cattle on farm)	3.52	6.46	8.44	9.44	9.58	8.44	8.48	9.44	9.65	9.60	10.52	11.66	12.33	13.72	15.57	15.17	*14.29	↓↓
ALL MILK	17.40	19.70	21.00	21.60	21.70	20.60	20.10	20.60	20.70	20.50	22.00	22.80	22.80	23.60	25.50	25.20	*24.20	↓↓
FEED \$	13.88	13.24	12.56	12.16	12.12	12.16	11.62	11.16	11.05	10.90	11.48	11.14	10.47	9.88	9.93	10.03	*9.91	↓↓

DAIRY COMMODITIES - GLOBAL BIWEEKLY Internet Auction (\$/LB) 01/21/25	U.S. CMES SPOT DAILY (\$/LB) 01/29/25			U.S. WEEKLY USDA NDPSR (\$/LB) WK ENDING 01/25/25*		
Weighted Avg. 1 to 6 mo. FORWARD CONTRACTS per metric ton converted to \$/LB	Prev. 5 day Lids	Spot price	Weekly Avg	FMMO PROD	MIL LBS	WTED AVG \$
NEXT GDT AUCTION 02/04/25	NFDM	4	1.3467 ↓↓ 1.3450 ↓↓	NFDM	14.5	1.3639 ↓↓
ALL-PRODUCT INDEX 1.8800 ↑↑ 1.4%	BUTTER	24	2.4600 ↓↓ 2.4967 ↑↑	BUTTER	2.7	2.6016 ↓↓
MILK FAT (AMF) 3.0000 ↓↓ 7.8%	CHEDDAR (BULK)	20	1.9300 ↑↑ 1.8967 ↑↑	CHEDDAR-40	8.8	1.9429 ↑↑
BUTTERMILK POWDER N/A	MOZZARELLA (BULK)	12	1.8650 ↑↑ 1.8567 ↑↑	CHEDDAR-500	12.2	1.9002 ↑↑
LACTOSE 0.4052 ↓↓ 0.8%	WHOLE POWDER (WMP)	4	1.8094 ↑↑ 5.0%	DRY WHEY	5.4	0.7307 ↑↑

ANNOUNCED FEDERAL ORDER PRICES (\$/CWT) NASS ALL-MILK						CURRENT FEDERAL ORDER VALUES (\$/LB) * = *NEW						
*CL I ADV ↑↑	CL II ↓↓	CL III ↓↓	CL IV ↓↓	ALL-MILK-U.S.	ALL-MILK-PA	*WEIGHTED AVG. 4-WK DEC. 1-28, 2024						
*21.27 (FEB)	21.28 (DEC)	18.62 (DEC)	20.74 (DEC)	24.20 (NOV) ↓↓	25.00 (NOV) ↓↓	PRODUCT	VALUE	MAKE ALLOW	NET	COMPONENTS		
						HEIFERS	1.7608	0.2003	1.5605	PROT	1.9637 ↓↓	
						COWS	2.5748	0.1715	2.4033	B.FAT	2.9104 ↓↓	
						BUTTER	1.3952	0.1678	1.2274	N.FAT	1.2151 ↑↑	
						DRYWHEY	0.6353	0.1991	0.4362	OTHER	0.4493 ↑↑	

U.S. AVG. BRED COWS & HEIFERS (3rd trimester) per head as reported by USDA Monthly National Dairy Comprehensive Report													
NOV-23	DEC-23	JAN-24	FEB-24	MAR-24	APR-24	MAY-24	JUN-24	JUL-24	AUG-24	SEP-24	OCT-24	NOV-24	*DEC-24
2108	N/A	1635	N/A	N/A	N/A	2115	2016	N/A	N/A	2800	N/A	2250	N/A
U.S. AVG. MILKING COWS per head as reported by USDA Monthly National Dairy Comprehensive Report													
1830	1988	N/A	1792	N/A	N/A	2120	2254	1624	N/A	2800	2489	N/A	

CATTLE - DAIRY PURPOSES (\$/HD) USDA and other East and Midwest auction reports combined 4-week rolling average as of JAN. 24, 2025											
*MILK COWS (NASS) U.S. Avg.			FRESH			HEIFERS: Springing			Bred		
*\$2600 OCT-24 ↑↑	*\$2360 JUL-24	3200	3000	2200	2200	900	1300	1200	N/A	1500	1800
YEAR AGO											
\$1850 OCT-23	\$1760 JUL-23	1975	2000	1800	1400	700	N/A	975	N/A	1350	1150
PA Auction Markets Jan. 23-28, 2025											
CULL MARKET COWS (\$/CWT LIVWEIGHT)											
Premium White	Breakers	Boners	Lean								
138.75 ↑↑	135.10 ↑↑	127.35 ↑↑									
WEEK AGO											
N/A	129.35	128.50	120.50								
YEAR AGO											
N/A	107.00	101.35	95.25								
FED STEERS (\$/CWT LIVE)						Holstein Beef-X-Dairy					
Choice & Prime 1250-1550 lb						171.00 ↑↑ 201.25 ↑↑					
BULL CALVES: No. 1 & 2, 90-130 lbs						625.00 ↑↑ 900.00 ↑↑					
70-85 lbs						675.00 ↑↑ 1060.00 ↑↑					

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Patricia Nissenbaum, 20 plus years experience, large and small herds. Dairy cows and dairy goats. Will travel anywhere, references available. Email milksmaid@dkunkerton.net. Phone 319-822-7807.

Joe Cramer, has a college degree in dairy cattle production & management plus 20 years dairy experience. 419-376-8662.

David Stoner, over 30 years experience, 717-951-2540.

PENNSYLVANIA

Bedford County: Milkmaid R Us, 253 Meadow Lane, Everett, Pa 15537. Phone 814-652-2092.

Eastern Pa.: Brad Wright, 717-953-4570. 290 Samuels Church Rd., McClure, Pa. 17841. 15 years experience.

Franklin & Cumberland Counties: Kann's Milking Service. 30 years experience (references available). Contact Ryan L. Kann, 717-816-1920.

LISTINGS ARE FREE

Anyone wishing to have his or her name included in this service should contact Farmshine in writing, giving name, complete address, telephone number, email address and county to be listed under.

Send to:
Relief Milker Service, Farmshine,
342 E. Main St., Ste. 201, Leola, Pa. 17540

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1 Services

FARM INSURANCE: barns, equipment, hay and grain storage, Workers' Compensation, farm stands and stores, vehicles and farm homes. Central Virginia. Call Alec Pandaleon at 845-242-0113.

ACCOUNTING SERVICES- Barkman Ag Accounting, providing tax preparation, payroll, and all your other accounting needs. Call Shane Barkman at 814-977-4207.

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BALING SERVICES - CUSTOM 3x3 and round baling, along with individual wrapping. Out of southern Lancaster, Pa. 717-826-3775.

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COMPOSTECH LLC. IS A local Honey Brook business, making and selling organic compost at \$30 per cubic yard. Call Dave at 610-441-5154 to schedule a pick up. Also taking horse manure for free, must be dropped off.

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CUSTOM HEIFER RAISING. 300-400 head capacity. AI breeding, hauling available. We do not have state of the art facilities but are committed to an accelerated feeding program. Call for pricing. Reach us at 240-291-0286.

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Thursday, February 13th, 2025 @ 10:00 A.M.

HEAVENLY CREEK FARM REG. JERSEY HERD DISPERSAL

Location: 10 Brown Rd. Shippensburg, Pa. 17257



Heavenly Creek Farm Reg. Jersey herd dispersal. Owned by Linda Varner, wife of the late Tom Varner. Due to a tragic accident with a malfunctioning water heater, Linda has made the difficult decision to sell their milky herd of dairy cows. The herd is primarily Jerseys with a few other breeds and 2 or 3 crosses. Aprox. 70+ head in all stages of lactation. **They will be DHIA tested for the sale and also tested A2/A2! These cows are milking well with 5.3F and 120,000 SCC. Mostly Registered, with many foundation cows from Rocky Ridge herd!** A.I. bred using good Select Sires bulls. A calm herd, milked in a parlor, and housed in a freestall. They should easily transition to most setups. More pedigree info at ring side. *The family sincerely appreciates all the prayers and support of neighbours, family, and friends as they try to accept and go on.*

Selling for others...

- ★ A nice selection of top fresh cows from local over stocked herds!
- ★ Accepting quality consignments of fresh cows, bulls and heifers from calves to springers!
- ★ Apollo SX-34 semen tank and 980 units of Holstein semen including, Daca, Aflame, Wasabi, Shooter, Dynamite, Leo, Majik, Bartel, Axel, Denali, Gifian, Montego, Vella, Thurman and 20 units sexed Rhett, and 30 units Angus!
- ★ **Bring your tank to the sale!!**
- ★ *Note: All cattle are vaccinated and vet checked, and all cows crossing state lines will be tested Friday, and should be ready Friday afternoon. Trucking available.*

BRUBACKER'S QUALITY DAIRY SALES, LLC

Manager/Auctioneers Jason Brubacker Lic. AU5608 717-729-0173	Can't make the sale? Bid on-line at Cowbuyer.com Online questions? Call Katie Shultz 717-543-7883	Sale Staff Ivan Brubacker 717-414-6657
Darryl Jones Lic. AU5194 717-226-0776		Pedigrees Art Kling



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Special Mention: 120-cow Holstein herd from Centre Co.
Parlor free stall broke, avg. 60 lbs. 4.0 BF 3.2 Pro. 140,000 SCC.
Bred back to Angus and Holstein bulls.

Recently fresh cows milking 100+ lbs. w/low SCC are in demand!

All sizes of quality Holstein heifers, both open and bred, are selling at historical highs!

Consignors: Please send all info with truckers for the catalog.
For more information, contact dairy reps:
Aaron Martin, 717-445-4825 (home); Bill Hough, 973-224-0204 (cell).

Thank you - N.H.S.S.

REMINDER:
Friday, Feb. 7th - Annual Catalog Draft Horse Sale. Start time 8 a.m.

Sale Managed By
New Holland Sales Stables, Inc.
Barn 717-354-4341 Fax 717-355-0706 • David Kolb, Mgr. 61L

Classifieds

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3 Dairy Equipment

230 RISSLER MIXER; 55 cow milking track line for stall barn; 2-inch pipeline, SS jar; 4000 gallon Alfa Laval, 2 compressors, washer. 814-931-5860. (2/7)

CALFTEL HUTCHES, good condition. Metal pipe fencing. \$275; Free stalls, used, good condition. Multiple sizes available. \$25 each. Chambersburg, Pa. 717-729-0915. (3/7)

RFR1000 GALLON TANK, receiver group, detergent pump, pipeline washer control panel. If interested in all or some, contact 717-598-0563. (2/7)

USED MILK TANKS - 700 gal. Mueller M; 800 gal. Mueller OH; 900 gal. Mueller OH. T.H. Horning. 717-438-3104.

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4' X 6' COW MATS. GOOD mat for the money and easy to install. \$80 each, including hardware. Call 717-304-6684.

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4 Dairy Cows

FRESH 2 YEAR OLDS, \$3200 a piece. 717-423-5335. (1/31)

REG. JERSEYS. CALVES/ heifers, in milk, just fresh and dry cows available. Great for 4-H showing. 717-320-2696. (2/7)

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JUST FRESH, 1ST LACTATION Reg. Holstein cows. Good quality, well grown animals. 3-4 generally available each month. Call 570-297-5118.

5 Heifers & Calves

CHOICE OF 2 SEPTEMBER 2024 calves. Polled (PP), 10 of 11 EX dams, 4 nominated All-American, high milk, b/f, pro, Roxy family. 2/8/25 PHA Convention Sale, Lot 39. On cowbuyer.com. Brown Sheep LP. 570-836-6600. (2/7)

6 Dairy Bulls

B&W AND R&W POLLED homozygous Holsteins, A2A2. Some genomically tested also. Lebanon Co., Pa. Con-Ger Farms. 717-821-1454.

WANTED - Reg. Jersey bull, 12-15 mos. old. 856-478-2942.

REG. HOLSTEIN BULLS for sale. Ar-Joy Farms, Cochranville, Pa. 610-637-7423.

HOLSTEIN BULLS ready for free stalls and younger. High genomic tested bulls from contract matings and high type cow families. 610-932-6062. Call between 8:00-8:30 a.m.

BULLS FOR SALE & LEASE - Reg. Holsteins, any age out of dams with records to 30,000M, 1200F. Stump Acres. York Co. Call 717-792-3216.

7 Semen, Embryos

WELCOME CLASSTOPPER semen. A2/A2 aAa 213645 2-3 VG-85 +2798 GTPI. \$15/unit. Delivery available in some areas, can ship. Streamline Genetics, 607-965-0089 or 706-578-0731.

HELSEL-HILL HAS expanded. Call or text Keith Helsel for No Bull sires, Blondin sires, Resolution-Red, Furnace Hill Zas Endure, and more. 814-515-5455.

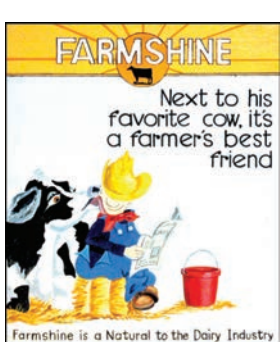
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139932533. He is EX-94 AAA (4352). From 5 EX dams- 94, 90, 91, 91 & 95. Dam is 94 pt. Outside daughter, still in herd at 10 yrs. old & looks half her age. Sire stack is Baxter, Outside, Rudolph, Conquest, Starbuck, Citation R, Elevation. Very well balanced bull siring the right kind. Strength with dairyness. High productive life, low SCC, high conception. Early daughters are milking great & look better than their dams. Priced at \$14 for 20 units or more. Joe Wivell 717-471-5260.

9 Equipment & Machinery

HORNING MFG. HIGH capacity roller mill with blower. Grinds 1200+ bu/hour. \$24,000 OBO. 717-587-2943. (2/21)

8 JOHN DEERE UNIT mounted no-fill coulters. \$100 each. 717-587-2943.

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FORAGE HARVESTER- 2010 John Deere 7450

with 8-row head. 2250 cutterhead hours. 13.5L engine, 560HP. Prodrive, 4WD, rear dump kit. KP. \$139,500. 717-400-7917.

NEW HOLLAND 9080 big square baler, 3x4x8, with preservative applicator. 29,000 bales. Uptime service done every year. Very well maintained and in excellent condition, field ready. \$45,000. Sullivan Co., Pa. 570-419-8981.

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